REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR

1925-26

00134058

MADRAS
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS

Price, 4 rupees.

1927

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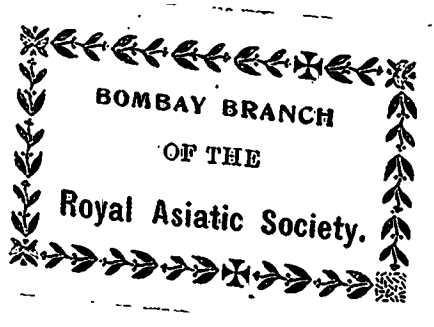

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MAP
of the
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
Corrected to the 31st March 1926
SCALE OF MILES
50 0 50 100 MILES
NOTE.—The Longitudes are referable to the Greenwich Meridian, taking that of Madras Observatory as 80° 14' 14" East.
REFERENCE
TOWN Head Quarters of Collectors
TOWN Head Quarters of Judges
TOWN Cantonment
ETOWN Municipality
GUNTUR Towns having 40,000 and more inhabitants
NELLORE ..... Do. ..... from 20 to 40,000 ..... Do. .....
Tindivanam ..... Do. ..... from 10 to 20,000 ..... Do. .....
Mirkondam ..... Do. ..... below 10,000 ..... Do. .....
Railway and station
Main road
District boundary
Boundary of Agency tracts
Hill
River
Canal
Area irrigated by Principal systems of irrigation
G. T. Station and height in feet above sea level
Light house
Native state
N. B.—The present Hd. Qrs. of the Collector and Dist. Judge of Ramnad is at Madura
St. Thomas Mount and Pallavaram form a single Cantonment.
BENGAL
BAY OF
CEYLON
ARABIAN SEA
BERAR
CENTRAL PROVINCES
BIHAR & ORISSA
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY
HYDERABAD
MYSORE
COORG
TRAVANCORE
COCHIN
LACCADIVE ISLANDS
MINICOY
AMINDIVI ISLANDS
MALDIVE ISLANDS
MADRAS
PONDICHERRY
KARIKAL
MAHE
YANAON
AGENCY TRACTS
VIZAGAPATAM
MASULIPATAM
COCANADA
NELLORE
CUDDAPAH
BELLARY
ANANTAPUR
KURNOOL
KISTNA
GUNTUR
GODAVARI
KISTNA
NELLORE
CHINGLEPUT
SOUTH ARCOT
NORTH ARCOT
SALEM
COIMBATORE
NILGIRIS
MALABAR
SOUTH CANARA
TRICHINOPOLY
TANJORE
MADURA
TINNEVELLY
TUTICORIN
PALAMCOTTAH
TRIVANDRUM
CALICUT
CANNANORE
MANGALORE
BEYPORE
COCHIN
ALEPPEY
COLOMBO
GALLE
PAMBAN
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PREFATORY NOTE

In compliance with the orders of the Government of India, Part I of this publication—the "General Summary"—deals with the calendar year 1926, and Part II—the main report—with the official year 1925-26 except where it is specifically stated otherwise. In previous years, the report was printed in foolscap size. Last year the size was changed to octavo.

PART I

GENERAL SUMMARY

1. Although the year 1926 was not marked by any happenings of a sensational nature, there were, nevertheless, several features of considerable interest. With the general elections due in November, all political parties were compelled to take stock of their position and political activity during the year was mainly directed towards winning over the electorate. Although the Swarajists secured a majority over any other party, they adhered to their policy of non-acceptance of office and declined to form a Ministry. An interesting feature of the new Council was the nomination of Dr. Muttulakshmi Ammal, the first woman to sit in the Council. The anticipated surplus of Rs. 29½ lakhs in the budget estimates for 1925–26 proved to be a very conservative estimate, the year actually closing with a surplus of about Rs. 98½ lakhs, due to a shortage in anticipated expenditure of Rs. 32 lakhs and an increase in receipts of Rs. 37 lakhs. After allowing for expenditure on a number of new schemes and taking into account the remission of a further sum of Rs. 57 lakhs in the provincial contribution, the budget estimates for 1926–27 anticipated a deficit of Rs. 31·74 lakhs. The improvement in the opening balance will turn this deficit into a surplus. Apart from the change of Ministry after the general election, the only important change in the administration was **General**

the appointment of the Hon'ble Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell, C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., as a temporary Member of the Executive Council during the absence at Geneva of the Hon'ble Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., who had been deputed to attend the Assembly of the League of Nations. There was an appreciable reduction in the volume of grave crime although there were a number of sensational murders. Civil litigation showed a tendency to increase and conditions necessitated the continuance of the two temporary additional Judges in the High Court where the pendency of suits is still a matter of some concern. Although the year was not marked by any serious riots, the tension between the Muḥammadans and Hindus was somewhat strained on several occasions. It is significant that a force of about 500 police was required at Nellore in March to keep the peace during a Hindu procession. The South African Deputation visited Madras in September and was given a cordial welcome, and the Royal Commission on Agriculture visited various parts of the Presidency in November. Although there were no serious railway accidents during the year, there were two unfortunate boat accidents at Bimlipatam and Gōdāvari. In the former, twelve persons lost their lives owing to the overturning of a boat, and in the latter, 28 lives were lost in a launch accident on the Gōdāvari. The south-west monsoon was not on the whole adequate and the north-east monsoon was almost a complete failure in the Circars and the Deccan and the position in some districts is causing considerable anxiety.

Political

2. During the year 1926 political interest was mainly centred on the elections, and the various parties were chiefly occupied in selecting their

candidates, preparing their political programmes and carrying on their election campaigns.

As the Congress which met at Cawnpore in December 1925 had decided that it should henceforth function in accordance with the policy of the Swarajya Party, the Swarajists renewed their activities to capture the legislatures and displayed some confidence in their ability to win over the electorate to their side. It soon became evident that the Swarajya Party were developing a strong and well-organized campaign in order to achieve their object. The Tamil Nādu Provincial Congress Committee, the Āndhra Provincial Congress Committee and the Madras District Congress Committee held meetings early in the year and inaugurated their election propaganda. The Tamil Nādu Provincial Congress Committee issued an election manifesto condemning diarchy and pledging itself to stand for equal rights and opportunities for all classes and castes and to put up a strong fight in the Madras Legislative Council on the issue of total prohibition. At a bye-election in North Arcot in February, the Swarajist candidate captured the seat from the Ministerialists.

On the 16th March 1926, the Swarajists and many Nationalists walked out of the Legislative Council as the Congress Party in the Council did not propose to work in the Legislature any longer, in pursuance of the policy and programme laid down by the Congress. However, they were permitted by the All-India Congress Special Committee to attend the July session of the Council and participated in the discussions of the Malabar Tenancy Bill and the Hindu Religious Endowments Act (Amendment) Bill, both of which were strenuously fought in the Council.

The new Nationalist Party was received with mixed feelings. The Madras District Congress Committee, the Tamil Nādu Swarajya Party and the Āndhra Provincial Congress Committee all held meetings disapproving of the agreement concluded at Ahmedabad on the 21st April between the Responsivists and the Congress men, although the pact was approved of at Mangalore when the Karnataka Provincial Congress Committee participated in the District Political Conference there at the end of April.

After the All-India Congress Committee had approved of the candidates for the Councils as recommended by the Provincial Congress Committees, the Congress Party entered upon a vigorous campaign to capture the Legislatures. The Justice Party was also very active and they attacked the Congress as a Brahman Party opposed to the interests of Non-Brahmans with the result that feelings between Brahmans and Non-Brahmans became somewhat strained.

On account of differences of opinion on the question of the acceptance of office, there were some secessions from the Swarajya Party and in Madras the traditional attitude of non-acceptance of office appeared to be modifying. In July the Legislative Council adopted a resolution for the removal of the sex disqualification which was well received and one of the features of the election campaigning was the presence of a number of women canvassers. In the election to the Madras Corporation, the Swarajists and the Justicites each won one seat from the Independents, but the Swarajist President was succeeded by a Justice Party candidate.

During the year the term of the second Legislative Council created under the Government of India Act, 1919, came to an end and the elections for the Legislative Assembly and the local Legislative Council took place on the 8th November and passed off without any serious disturbances, the contest being as a rule between the Justicites and the Swarajists, while in several cases the candidates declared themselves as of no party or independent. They resulted in the capture of a large number of seats by the Swarajya Party, which found itself with a majority over any other group. In accordance with their policy of non-acceptance of office, the party declined to accept the invitation of His Excellency the Governor to form a Ministry. His Excellency then appointed as his Ministers the Hon'ble Dr. P. Subbarayan, the Hon'ble Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, who had stood as Independents. The new Council, which met on the 14th December, adjourned after electing as its president the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju.

3. The south-west monsoon commenced on the West Coast in the first week of June, but it did not develop for some time with the result that the transplantation of paddy and the sowing of dry crops were delayed in many districts. The rainfall in June was generally defective except in the Deccan. The situation improved in July when there was a fair amount of rain, but the rainfall in August was generally inadequate, except in the Circars and on the West Coast, and was very poor in the Deccan and Salem. Good rains in September improved the situation to some extent, but the south-west monsoon was on the whole

Economic

defective. The north-east monsoon was even more unsatisfactory. Though it began briskly in parts of the Circars and raised hopes of a good harvest, it soon failed, and both in the Circars and the Deccan the failure has been complete. In the remaining districts the rainfall was inadequate. Consequently the water-supply in most rain-fed tanks was insufficient and the standing crops have withered in parts of many districts. At the close of the year prices of grain, more particularly those of dry grains, were tending to rise and the situation was causing a certain amount of anxiety.

The year was fortunately free from severe floods and cyclones, though there were some floods in the Cauvery and Coleroon which subsided without causing any serious damage. In the month of August an alarming report appeared in one of the local newspapers that the Periyār dam had burst, but it proved to be absolutely without foundation.

Through the agency of co-operative societies and the ryots' efforts, steady progress has been made in the work of reclaiming the lands in Trichinopoly and Tanjore districts which were silted up by the severe floods which occurred in 1924.

Legislative Council

4. The Madras Legislative Council sat on 47 days during the year, 34 days being allotted for official and 13 days for non-official business. The official Bills that were passed by the Madras Legislative Council during the year 1926 were :—

The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act (Amendment) Bill,

A Bill for the Registration of Nurses and Midwives in the Presidency of Madras,

The Madras Local Authorities Entertainments Tax Bill, and

The Madras Village Officers' Restoration Bill.

The following four non-official Bills were also passed during the year:—

The Malabar Tenancy Bill,

The Madras City Tenants Protection (Amendment) Bill,

The Madras Local Boards Act (Amendment) Bill, and

The Kirlampudi Estates Bill.

The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act (Amendment) Bill aroused very considerable interest and met with keen opposition during its passage through the Council. The Bill was intended to remove doubts which had been raised as to the validity of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1923, and of the action taken and things done under the Act and was in other respects only a measure re-enacting the provisions of the former Act. The Bill has since received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General. The Malabar Tenancy Bill, introduced by Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar, was intended to amend and declare the law relating to landlord and tenant in the Malabar district. The outstanding feature of the Bill was the right of occupancy given in certain cases to the cultivating kanamdars and kuzhikanam or other tenants and to the non-cultivating kanamdars and kuzhikanam tenants. His Excellency the Governor has withheld his assent from the Bill as passed by the Legislative Council as, *inter alia*, it took away from the members of one section of the community, without any adequate compensation, rights over property in which they had been confirmed by a century of legal decisions, or diminished the value

of such rights. This Bill also was keenly contested. The Madras Nurses and Midwives Act provides for the registration of nurses and midwives in the Presidency of Madras and for regulating the conditions or qualifications for such registration. It is intended thereby to minimise the risk to the public of attendance by unqualified nurses and midwives and to place qualified nurses and midwives under disciplinary control. It is expected that the provisions of this Act will justify themselves by considerably reducing the present high rate of mortality from child-birth. The Madras Local Authorities Entertainments Tax Act gives power to local authorities to impose taxes on entertainments which are defined in the Act as including any exhibitions, performances, amusements, etc., to which persons are admitted on payment. It is modelled on the Bengal Amusements Tax Act, 1922, and opens up a new avenue of taxation for local bodies. The Madras Village Officers' Restoration Act enables the re-division into their original units of the villages which were amalgamated in June 1920 as a measure of economy and the revival of the abolished village offices and the restoration to office of those who held offices before the grouping, amalgamation or reduction. The Madras City Tenants Protection Act (Amendment) Bill has for its object the removal of certain defects which have been brought to light in the working of the City Tenants Protection Act. It provides compensation to a tenant for any improvement he makes and reduction of rent is also provided for by suit. The Bill to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, is intended to protect the rights of lower castes to use public roads and markets maintained by local

boards without let or hindrance by caste people. The Act renders it an offence under the Madras Local Boards Act to obstruct the free passage of people of all communities in such public places. By the Kirlampudi Estates Bill the estate of a son of the Maharaja of Bobbili has been declared to be impartible within the meaning of the Madras Impartible Estates Act, 1904. The Madras Irrigation Bill which was passed by the Council in December 1924 and which had been reserved by His Excellency the Governor for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor-General, was, with the consent of the Governor-General, returned by His Excellency the Governor for further consideration by the Council with a recommendation that certain amendments be considered. When the Bill came before the Council on 27th August 1926 it was resolved that the consideration of the Bill be adjourned *sine die*.

The number of resolutions tabled during the year (excluding those for adjournment or on the budget) was 782, of which 13 were discussed in the Council. Special mention must be made of the resolution calling on the Government to remove the sex disqualification among women as members of the local Legislature. Government accepted the resolution and removed the restriction.

There were 1,009 resolutions on the budget, of which only 203 were actually discussed. The majority of them were in the nature of token motions for discussing questions of public interest. Twelve adjournment motions were moved to "discuss definite matters of urgent public importance," of which five were discussed. One motion dealt with the pay and increments of unpassed clerks and was carried. The refusal of the Government to remove the electoral disqualification

of Mr. Yakub Hasan formed the subject of another motion which was put to the vote and declared lost. The rest of the motions were mainly concerned with the policy of the Government in departmental matters.

It is noteworthy that no budget allotments were certified by H.E. the Governor during the year, only one small reduction being carried under the demand for the Administration of Justice.

There was a very decided decrease in the number of questions put in the Council by non-official members during the year, members having responded to the request of the President that they should use their discretion in requiring Government to supply information which was already available in published reports. The questions received numbered 1,266, of which 1,065 were starred. The number of questions admitted was 1,005 and 225 questions were disallowed. Of the 1,005 questions admitted, 994 questions were answered in Council, 823 being starred questions.

Police

5. A satisfactory feature of the police administration during the year was the reduction in the volume of grave crime, which decreased by about 11 per cent. Murders, dacoities, robberies, housebreakings, thefts, and thefts of cattle showed a reduction ranging from 7 to 30 per cent. The percentage of detection remained the same as in the previous year. Organized crime was well controlled. In Madras City thefts of bicycles from outside buildings increased to some extent, but the organizations responsible for a series of housebreakings and thefts were broken up and large quantities of stolen property recovered.

There were no serious disturbances during the year, though serious trouble might have occurred at Nellore in March when the Hindus conducted

a procession but for the adequate police arrangements made. The procession was successfully conducted under the protection of over 450 police, including half a company of the East Coast Special Force and men from the Armed Reserves of seven other districts. The general elections entailed a good deal of strain on the police, who handled the situation with tact and skill, and no untoward incidents or disturbances occurred.

No difficulty was experienced in recruitment for the Force and owing to the re-organization of the Reserves there were about 100 men in excess of the sanctioned strength who will be absorbed as vacancies occur. The Central Recruits' School at Coimbatore was opened during the year.

Crime committed by Kallars decreased and there was a complete absence of organized crime by them. Considerable progress was made in the work of reclaiming the Kallars, details of which will be found in the portion of the Report dealing with the Labour Department.

The King's Police Medal was awarded to four officers; the title of M.B.E. was conferred on a Deputy Superintendent, that of Diwan Bahadur on an officiating Deputy Superintendent, that of Khan Sahib on a Deputy Superintendent, and two Inspectors received the title of Rao Sahib. Rewards were freely granted to the police and to private persons.

The Armed Reserves in all districts and the Malabar and the East Coast Special Police were reorganized, and the re-allocation of police stations in districts was completed during the year.

Criminal justice

6. As pointed out in the remarks dealing with the administration of the Madras Police Department, there was a fairly general decrease in the

volume of ordinary crime. This was largely due to the ability of the police to devote their whole attention to their normal duties. Coimbatore maintained its unenviable reputation for murders, and there was a tendency on the part of the Goundars of Salem district to commit murder on the slightest provocation and with unregistered fire-arms. Political offences were again completely absent during the year.

The most noteworthy cases tried were a rioting case in Bellary arising out of a serious conflict between two rival sects of Lingayats, and a prosecution of counterfeiting currency notes in Guntūr. The Guntūr case, which was sensational both from its nature and the position of some of the accused, occupied the time of the Sessions Judge for several months and necessitated the appointment of an Additional Sessions Judge to try the ordinary sessions cases.

Civil justice

7. The year did not present any very marked features. The check to the tendency of the volume of civil litigation to increase, which was mentioned in last year's report, proved to be of short duration. The number of original suits increased in all the mufassal courts and there was a corresponding rise in the number of suits pending in the several courts. The increase in litigation, however, was not so considerable as to make it possible to assign any definite cause for it. A satisfactory feature of the year was the increasing popularity of village courts and their satisfactory working no doubt contributed to the decrease in the number of small cause suits instituted in District Munsifs' Courts.

In the High Court the two temporary Judges continued to sit throughout the year and this

enabled three Judges to work on the original side, with the result that the pendency of cases on that side was still further reduced. On the appellate side, although there was an increase in the number of appeals disposed of as compared with 1925, the position at the end of the year was rather worse as regards the number of suits pending. This was due to a marked increase in the number of Letters Patent Appeals and second appeals filed.

The institution of suits in the City Civil Court and the Court of Small Causes, Madras, showed a marked decrease and the pendency of suits in these courts was correspondingly reduced.

Prisons

8. The daily average population of convicts, under-trial prisoners and civil prisoners fell during the year. Forty-four Māppilla State prisoners and 117 Māppilla convicts were released and 137 other convicts were conditionally released on the recommendation of the Advisory Boards. Twenty-eight adolescents were released on licence from the Borstal School, Tanjore, for service under private employers. The Borstal Schools Act was assented to by the Governor-General and it will be brought into operation very shortly. A modified form of Borstal treatment was given to Māppilla and non-Māppilla adolescents confined in the District Jail of Pālamcōttah, who were considered unsuitable for the Borstal School, and the results were very satisfactory. The work of the Senior and Junior Certified Schools at Chingleput and Ranipet produced good results and a new Junior Certified School was opened at Rajahmundry on the 1st September 1926.

The health of the prisoners continued to be good and the number of admissions to hospital and the number of deaths declined. Pulmonary

tuberculosis accounted for fifty deaths, but it is expected that the new Tuberculosis Jail, which was under construction at Bellary, will soon be ready to receive prisoners suffering from this disease. No epidemic disease prevailed in any of the jails during the year. Hookworm treatment was given to all prisoners found to be infected as a matter of routine.

The number of prison offences increased, the increase being chiefly noticeable against offences relating to work. Corporal punishment was resorted to only in exceptional cases requiring stern disciplinary action, and the number of these cases fell from 15 to 7.

Elementary education was imparted as usual and lectures on religious and moral subjects were delivered. Recreation after lock-up was allowed to well-behaved prisoners.

The Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society continued to do good work during the year, but the general public took little interest in this great social service.

Registration and Companies

9. There were no special features in the work of the Registration Department for 1926. Four new offices were opened, in addition to two temporary offices, with effect from 1st June 1926 and one or two small changes were made in the location of the existing offices.

There was a fall in the number of companies registered during the year and the number of companies that ceased to exist increased, the reasons being the stringency of the money market and the consequent depression in trade, on the one hand, and the want of public confidence in joint stock enterprises and the lack of organized management, sustained zeal and co-operation on

the part of the Boards of Management on the other hand. The largest flotation during the year was the Chitavalsa Jute Mills Company, Limited (Vizagapatam district) with an authorized capital of Rs. 15·05 lakhs. One remarkable feature of the new registrations was that over 60 per cent were of the trading and industrial class.

Co-operation

10. The re-organization of the upper controlling staff came into full effect during the year. The Government sanctioned for a period of one year the appointment of a Joint Registrar who is responsible, subject to the general control of the Registrar, for non-credit work. The appointment of ten Senior Inspectors for a period of five years was also sanctioned for the supervision of non-credit societies.

The expansion of existing societies showed moderate progress and there was also fair progress in the formation of new societies. The total working capital of all societies of all classes was over eleven crores on 30th June 1926.

The Provincial Co-operative Union and a few district federations repeated last year's experiment of holding training classes in order to instruct office-bearers and other non-official workers of the movement in the administration of societies. The Provincial Union and two district federations also continued to hold training classes as part of their educative propaganda. All but three districts in the Presidency had federations of supervising unions by the end of the year.

The transactions of trading societies showed a distinct improvement over those of the previous year. The system of granting loans on agricultural produce and standing crops showed signs of becoming popular, and the Government have

sanctioned a sum of Rs. 25,000 to be utilized in the form of long-term loans to sale societies for building godowns for the storage of produce. These loans on produce and the work of the sale societies enable cultivators to obtain money on the security of their crop and protect them from forced sales at uneconomic prices.

Three morel and mortgage banks were registered during the year, bringing the total to seven. The aim of these banks is to enable ryots to clear off old debts on their lands and to effect improvements.

The societies for organizing labour on a co-operative basis turned out much greater work than in the previous year and proved their utility both to their members and public bodies which entrusted their contracts to these societies.

Government aid was given to land reclamation societies in the shape of cheap long-term loans and the loan of tramways and wagons free of charge. These societies were established last year to reclaim lands in Trichinopoly and Tanjore districts which were silted up by the floods of 1924. Lands so reclaimed were brought back to cultivation, but in some parts the work of reclamation was rendered difficult by the high cost of clearing deep sand. Proposals were under consideration to construct channels at higher levels which will obviate the necessity of clearing land to the original level.

Taking the movement as a whole, the year's working showed increased overdues and large surpluses.

Local Boards and Municipalities

11. Of the Bills passed by the Legislative Council during the year, two were connected with local boards and municipalities. The Madras Local Authorities Entertainments Tax Act gives

power to local bodies to levy an amusement tax which should yield a considerable revenue, especially in large municipalities. An amendment to the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, establishes the rights of all persons, whatever their creed or caste, to use public roads and markets maintained at the expense of local boards.

During the year 1925-26 the subsidies paid to local bodies for secondary education, which were previously variable with the net cost of the subsidised schools, were fixed as lump sum subsidies to be revised only once in three years. Free and compulsory elementary education for boys and girls (other than Muhammadan girls), which was introduced in four out of 30 divisions in the City of Madras in 1925, was extended to three more divisions in 1926.

Mention was made last year of the grant by Government of Rs. 6·25 lakhs to local bodies with a view to improving communications in villages, the condition being generally that local bodies in each district should contribute a sum equal to the grant for that district. Out of this grant, the boards spent Rs. 4·59 lakhs up to the 31st March 1926. The balance was re-allotted to the boards in July and additional grants amounting to Rs. 59,000 were sanctioned for the same purpose during the year.

During 1926 the privilege of electing their own Chairmen or Presidents was extended to three taluk boards, six district boards and one municipal council.

Trade and Ports

12. The aggregate value of the trade of the Presidency decreased to the extent of three to four crores of rupees as compared with 1925, the fall being mainly due to a decrease in exports,

especially raw cotton and groundnuts, due to the record American cotton crop and the uncertainty of the franc exchange, although the total tonnage of goods handled at the port of Madras increased by 20 per cent over that of last year. On the other hand, there was a marked increase in the value of imports into the Presidency, particularly in the case of metals, mineral oils, sugar, motor vehicles, railway materials and cotton goods. In spite of the falling off in exports and the increase in imports, the balance of trade still continued favourable.

The development of the Port of Madras continued, especially in the provision of better facilities for the berthing of vessels and the handling of cargo. Consignments of coal and petrol can now be discharged direct on to the wharves. Work was proceeding with the Vizagapatam Harbour Works and the deep water harbours at Cochin and Tuticorin. Improvements were also effected at several of the minor ports.

Agriculture

13. The year 1926 witnessed the celebration of the jubilee of agricultural education in the Madras Presidency. Agricultural education as such was started in this Presidency in 1876 when the model farm at Saidapet was converted into a "complete and high class public agricultural college." The jubilee was celebrated by the opening by His Excellency the Governor of the new teaching college, the Freeman Buildings. The year was also marked by the visit of the Royal Commission on Agriculture towards the close of the year. The Commission was appointed to examine and report on the present conditions of agriculture and rural economy in British India and to make recommendations for the improvement

of agriculture and the promotion of the welfare and prosperity of the rural population.

There were 68 applicants for the B.Sc. course out of whom 25 students were selected. The results of the University examination were satisfactory, 11 out of 12 candidates for the final examination obtaining the degree. Though the agricultural middle schools are still in the experimental stage, the results have not been as good as was expected, especially at Anakāpalle where the response from the public was very disappointing.

The multiplication and trial of improved strains of paddy continued in the three paddy breeding stations and several new strains were evolved. Over 72,000 lb. of seed were issued and it was impossible to cope with the demand for the improved strains issued from the Āduturai station. The work on cotton breeding was carried on during the year with satisfactory results and a sub-station for cotton was formed out of the Kōvilpatti Agricultural Station. A certain amount of opposition was experienced in the working of the Cotton Transport Act. The Act, which was brought into force in November 1925, seeks to control the import of inferior qualities of seed into the protected areas and strong opposition was met with from the vested interests in the Tinnevelly area. The acquisition of land for the extension of the Anakāpalle Agricultural Station to serve as a cane-testing station for the Presidency was proceeded with. The work of millet-breeding was still in its infancy but considerable progress was made with the preliminary work necessary to evolve new strains. With the closing down of the Jam Factory and the almost

insuperable difficulty of transporting soft fruits to big markets like Madras, attention was concentrated on the growing of fruits which will bear distant transport. Experiments on the cultivation of potatoes were conducted at the Nanjanad Agricultural Station and measures to control potato diseases were investigated. Spraying with Bordeaux mixture became quite popular both for coffee and rubber. Experiments were also conducted to improve the quality, from a feeding point of view, of South Indian pastures and the experiments on the betel vine disease were continued.

The Chemistry section devoted considerable attention to experiments with artificial fertilizers in order to replace indigenous manures. Owing to the increased export of nitrogenous manures such as fish manure, bones and oil-cake, the prices of these manures have risen to such an extent that it is no longer profitable to apply them. Successful experiments were made in the manufacture of synthetic farmyard manure and methods of making this manure were demonstrated to the ryots. The results of the soil survey of North Malabar were being collected for publication.

Among the diseases which came in for special study during the year were "paddy blast" and the "mozaic" disease on sugarcane which appeared for the first time in this Presidency. The control of the Nephantis pest on coconuts by means of parasites progressed satisfactorily in South Kanara although the pest spread to the adjacent district of Malabar.

Satisfactory cattle-breeding work was done at Hosūr and Chintaladevi as well as on the buffalo-breeding station at Guntūr.

The Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act was extended to the "Nephantis" pest on coconuts in Malabar and the measures of control of the bud-rot on palms and coconuts in the Circars were continued with satisfactory results. The success of the extension of one month granted last year for the eradication of Cambodia cotton was doubtful as the plants were not removed until the middle and the end of September.

A large number of agricultural shows were held during the year in the districts and every endeavour was made to make these shows attractive and educative.

Veterinary

14. During the year the policy of the Civil Veterinary Department underwent a change. The systematic village visiting and propaganda work which was carried on by the touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons was discontinued and the touring staff redistributed by attaching some to large institutions with one or more taluks as their jurisdiction for the purpose of attending outbreaks of cattle disease, and by placing the rest in charge of certain taluks to attend to outbreaks of disease and maintain camp dispensaries in important centres when not attending to outbreaks. At the same time, the Veterinary Assistants in charge of those dispensaries where the work is light have been directed to attend to outbreaks of cattle disease in their own taluks. It was also decided not to create any more touring posts but Government have accepted the policy that the number of new dispensaries opened each year should be increased in consequence of this decision.

Six new Veterinary dispensaries were opened during the year making a total of 83 Government Veterinary Institutions in the Presidency.

Rinderpest continued to prevail in several districts and was very severe in South Kanara district during the year. It also broke out in some other districts and in Madras City. Necessary measures were taken to combat the disease and the Cattle Disease Act was enforced in taluks where the disease was very severe with the object of carrying out compulsory inoculation. Public lectures, illustrated with lantern slides, were given in different centres in Madras City when the disease was very prevalent. The " serum simultaneous " method of inoculation against rinderpest was again applied during the year and 307 animals, of which 154 belonged to Government, were inoculated. In order to popularize this efficient method of inoculation, the fee of Rs. 2 per head of cattle levied for this treatment was abolished.

A post-graduate class was held at the Madras Veterinary College for six months, at which four Veterinary Assistant Surgeons attended from this Presidency and were successful at the examination.

The routine work in the laboratory considerably increased during the year and special work on bovine lymphangitis and tuberculosis in cattle was continued.

Fisheries

15. Reference was made last year to the promising prospects of the pearl fisheries and in February–March and November–December, 1926 two successful pearl fisheries were conducted, the net revenue realized being Rs. 1,81,239. The last pearl fishery of any consequence was in 1889 and there is every prospect of a large pearl fishery being held early in 1927.

In the past, chank fisheries used to cease automatically during years of pearl fisheries as the

divers who engage in the former usually work in the latter. During the year, however, special efforts were made to fish chanks up to the commencement and after the closure of the pearl fisheries, which resulted in a net revenue of over Rs. 28,000 from this source.

Though in the early part of the year there was a depression in the fishing trade in Malabar on account of the devastation caused by the cyclone in November 1925, the catches of fish in certain sections of the coast were satisfactory later in the year and operations in the fish-curing yards consequently improved. The net result of the working of the fish-curing yards showed a surplus over expenditure of over Rs. 18,300 for the year ending 30th June 1926.

The conservation of the Bhavāni and Moyār rivers was transferred to the Fisheries Department during the year, and attempts were made to introduce different varieties of fish into several lakes and rivers.

The research work of the Department was continued during the year, the most important feature being the purchase of an Admiralty trawler for conducting experiments in deep-sea fishing and other purposes. The vessel has been placed in command of an experienced European master fisherman, who was appointed Assistant Director of Fisheries (Marine).

The education and socio-economic work among fishermen on the West Coast also continued during the year, the movement having begun to show tangible results. Three temperance and socio-economic societies were organized by private efforts and the number of elementary schools increased by one.

Forests

16. The policy of transferring "local" or "ryots'" forests to the control of panchayats has been continued during the year. The re-classification of forests is nearly completed, and it is expected that before long all forests of minor importance will have been handed over to panchayats. In consequence of this change, three more forest divisions have been abolished during the year and the abolition of the West Cuddapah division is also under consideration. Another effect of the policy of transferring the control of minor forests is that the specialized and trained officers of the Forest Department have been able to concentrate to a greater extent on the economic working and development of the valuable timber forests which the Presidency possesses.

The results of this are particularly noticeable in the exploitation work carried on in the Chenāt Nayar forests of Malabar. By the improved methods introduced by the Engineering Department, the outturn of timber has steadily increased and the cost of extraction has decreased. The advent of the Saw Mill and seasoning plant which were erected at Olavakot during the previous year has proved the practical utility of many of the evergreen forest timbers which were hitherto practically unknown to the market. The demand for these species is now increasing and in some cases it exceeds the supply in the limited areas being worked at present. The Russellkonda Saw Mill worked at a loss during the year, but there was an improvement in the quality of the logs and a decrease in the percentage of wastage in conversion.

Considerable progress was made in the investigation of the Pāpanāsam forests in the Tinnevelly

district. Flumes to be used for the extraction of reeds for paper-making were surveyed and the topographical survey of a considerable area was completed during the year. Further tests made of the value of the paper manufactured from the reeds produced very satisfactory results, and Government have been approached by a private firm for the establishment of a modern paper-making plant in the locality.

Arrangements were made with the Railway Department for the supply of a considerable number of sleepers and three portable saw mills, sanctioned in 1925, were purchased during the year mainly for the manufacture of railway sleepers. In order to investigate the possibility of manufacturing sleepers from the timber felled in the Government Cinchona Plantation area in the Ānamalais, the experimental sawing of 6,000 sleepers was sanctioned during the year.

Business under the Agency of Messrs. Howard Brothers of London continued during the year, considerable quantities of rosewood and Indian laurel being shipped. The prices fetched were very satisfactory. The most noteworthy features of the commercial activities of the Department were the establishment of a sale depôt in Madras in order to popularize mill-sawn teak and other Madras timbers and the inception of a "Sales agency" for equalizing prices in various depôts and co-ordinating sales in the Presidency.

The system of early burning was continued in most of the districts and was carried out over a greater area than in the previous year. As a result of the extension of this system, the cost of fire protection has been still further reduced.

17. The Department of Industries continued its numerous activities during the year. **Industries**

Under the State Aid to Industries Act a further loan of Rs. 20,000 was granted to the Carnatic Paper Mills, Ltd., and an overdraft of Rs. 1·34 lakhs with the Imperial Bank of India was guaranteed by Government. At the end of the year the future of the Company, with special reference to its indebtedness to Government, was under consideration. The Bureau of Commercial and Industrial Information dealt with a large number of inquiries during the year on industrial and commercial questions. The improvement of the lace and embroidery industry in the Presidency was investigated and a report on the development of overseas markets was under consideration at the end of the year. Statistics relating to industries and the wholesale prices of certain basic commodities were compiled. The attempts made to induce the people in the Gōdāvari district to adopt improved methods of retting coconut husk not having proved successful, it was decided to initiate experiments departmentally, with a view to demonstrating that coir fibre and yarn can be produced on the East Coast approximately equal in quality to that produced on the West Coast. The quality of the products of the Kerala Soap Institute was maintained at a high level during the year, considerable economies in labour and fuel being effected. There was a very satisfactory demand for the soaps manufactured. The Government Industrial Institute, Madras, continued to manufacture several varieties of ink. The Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor, was closed as the demand for its products was insufficient to absorb an economic output and the major portion of the machinery and stocks were disposed of by the end of the year. The success and economy of power crushing having been sufficiently demonstrated at Pallapā-

laiyam, the factory there was sold to a co-operative society for Rs. 6,500. The question of conducting similar demonstrations in other suitable areas was under consideration. There were five peripatetic weaving parties at work during the year. The Textile Institute having fully justified itself by results, Government decided to place it on a permanent basis. A dyeing section was added during the year and equipped with a laboratory. In addition to conducting courses of instruction, the Institute continued to manufacture a number of special weaving appliances. The power driven warp preparation plant was operated during the year and efforts were made to overcome the prejudice on the part of weavers against the use of machine-sized warps. The mulberry plantation at Coonoor was again attacked by the fungus disease and the Government Mycologist conducted experiments with a view to the eradication of the disease. Over 15,000 layings of seed were supplied to Kollegal. The work of the engineering branch of the Department showed satisfactory progress during the year. Three new power drills were put into operation and they were found to be well suited to local conditions. In the year, 401 bore-holes were sunk, the erection of 50 industrial plants was completed and 357 pumping and industrial plants were maintained. An amount of Rs. 70,000 was sanctioned for loans for the installation of pumping machinery.

There were 108 apprentices under training in the Madura Industrial Institute and Government sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 60,000 with a view to the Institute being maintained on a self-supporting basis. On the 31st March 1926 there were seven scholars undergoing courses of training in the

United Kingdom and two new scholars were sent subsequently. Five new scholarships each were awarded at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay. The number of recognized industrial schools increased to 56. The progress made in the training of Māppillas in cottage industries was considered sufficient to justify the recognition of the organization as an industrial school of weaving. The School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, increased considerably in numbers. The Madras Leather Trades Institute continued to manufacture different kinds of leather but the number of students on the rolls was unsatisfactory. This was due to the lack of openings for employment on account of the present depressed state of the leather industry.

Labour

18. The labour situation continued to be calm throughout the year and there were no strikes of any importance. On two occasions there was a little unrest which might have had serious developments had it not been for the good sense displayed by the workers. In July, the hardships of women employees in the mills were represented in such lurid colours at the meetings of the Madras Labour Union that the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills decided not to employ any female labour at all and a month's notice of discharge was served on about 100 female employees. The Union protested and the labourers approached the management with the result that the discharge notices were withdrawn. In August, the South Indian Railway, in pursuance of the plan to move their entire workshops to Golden Rock from Negapatam, decided to transfer the first batch of men. At the same time certain new conditions of

employment were announced, including the withdrawal of the concession of three days' absence without leave. The men refused to move without the restoration of this concession and also made demands for an increase in wages and a reduction in the rents to be charged at Trichinopoly. For a time both sides declined to yield but eventually wiser counsels prevailed and it was agreed to refer the dispute to the Commissioner of Labour and abide by his award which was, on the whole, favourably received.

The discussions of the Trade Union Bill in the Legislative Assembly and the early prospect of it becoming law resulted in greater activities among the Labour Unions. The Madras Labour Union, founded in 1919 for the employees of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, was revived but some of the labourers were not satisfied with the working of the Union and founded a new Union called the Buckingham and Carnatic Employees' Union. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Union, the Union of the South Indian Railway Employees, the Madras Tramwaymen's Union, the Harbour Port Trust Workmen's Union and the Cordite Factory Labour Union, Aravankadu, all worked during the year and a new union was formed for the employees of the Public Works Workshops. The unions were generally engaged in putting their affairs in order so as to qualify for registration as soon as the Trade Union Act is brought into force. In December, a delegation of the International Textile Works Federation visited Madras to ascertain the condition of textile labour in factories. With the textile workers on handlooms, who form about 90 per cent of the textile population, they did not concern themselves.

The Workmen's Compensation Act became better known and the number of claims increased.

Partly owing to the seasonal conditions in the recruiting areas and partly owing to the demand for labour consequent on the relaxation of the restrictions on the export of rubber, there was a considerable increase in emigration to the Federated Malay States. Against 25,000 and 30,500 from the ports of Madras and Negapatam for 1925, the figures for 1926 were 58,000 and 80,000, respectively. To cope with the extra work caused by this increase, a full-time Protector was appointed at Negapatam in October. The number of emigrants to Ceylon, however, fell from 125,000 to 95,000, the reason being that the monsoon last year was a failure. The Emigration Act of 1922 and the rules framed under it produced good results, especially in the detection of irregularities in recruiting. Considerable improvements were made in the places of accommodation for emigrants at Madras and several improvements were suggested for Negapatam also.

The Factories Act worked satisfactorily and several improvements were effected in the sanitation and protection of dangerous machinery in factories. Over 1,500 factory inspections were carried out.

During the year Government sanctioned the extension of operations of the Labour Department for the amelioration of depressed classes to the districts of Nellore and North Arcot. The existing special staffs under District Labour Officers continued to work in eleven other districts and the term of the Honorary District Labour Officer, Malabar, who was appointed last year, was extended for another year. These special staffs

were mainly engaged in the work of providing house-sites, either out of Government land or by acquisition of private land with the aid of Government loans granted on easy terms, facilitating the assignment of waste lands for cultivation, the leasing of valuable lands such as lankas on easy terms, the organization and supervision of co-operative societies, provision of schools, construction of wells and the provision of sites for pathways and burial-grounds. Two hostels, one for the benefit of the Ādi-Drāvida boys at Madras and the other for Ādi-Āndhra boys at Masulipatam, continued to be maintained with a strength of 50 boys in each. Government increased the number of scholarships and fee remissions for children of the depressed classes and 18 scholarships were sanctioned for college courses. For the study of commercial subjects, 10 scholarships were granted and 110 industrial scholarships were also awarded. In connexion with the scheme for building 200 houses for the Pulianthope labourers who lost their houses in 1921, 136 houses were completed and occupied and the remaining 64 houses were under construction.

The hostility of caste ryots to the amelioration work was not much in evidence during the year. On the contrary, they began to show some interest in the welfare of depressed classes and in some instances made contributions of money and clothes. The number of nominated seats in the Legislative Council for the representation of the depressed classes was raised from 5 to 10 and they also secured increased representation on the local boards.

The reclamation work of Kallars in the Madura and Rāmnād districts continued to

make satisfactory progress. Industrial centres improved the quality of their goods and the number of home workers increased. There were about 330 schools teaching over 12,000 Kallar children and 225 co-operative societies were at work. The construction of the Dindigul-Pollāchi and Madura-Bōdināyakkanūr railway lines provided employment for Kallar labour.

In the Tanjore district, where the work of reclamation was hitherto at a disadvantage for want of adequate funds and staff, a Special Deputy Superintendent of Police was appointed and forty more schools were opened.

All the criminal settlements continued to work well, with the exception of the Kāvali Reformatory Settlement which has special difficult problems of its own. The Sitanagaram Settlement secured the lease of the Undivalla lanka, which promises remunerative work. The Government have allotted a definite share of the sandal orders to the Pallāvaram Settlement, thereby ensuring steady employment for the settlers.

Public works

19. The arrangement under which the Chief Engineers were provisionally relieved of their secretarial functions, involving the formation of a separate Public Works Secretariat, was confirmed by the Secretary of State during the year. To give relief to the Executive Engineers in the delta areas in the Bezwada Circle, the Government sanctioned the revival of the Guntūr division which was abolished in April 1922. The restoration was first sanctioned for a period of one year and ultimately made permanent. A temporary division was also formed in the Bezwada Circle for a period of one year for the investigation and fixing of the second-crop zone in the Gōdāvari

Western Delta. A fully qualified Mechanical Engineer was appointed as Assistant Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, Madras, and a permanent Assistant Superintendent was sanctioned for the Public Works Stores, Madras. A new division was formed for the conservancy of the Cauvery and Coleroon rivers and the special division, formed during 1925 with headquarters at Trichinopoly for work in connexion with the Cauvery Irrigation system, continued during 1926 also. To enable adequate progress to be made in the schemes connected with the irrigation and drainage of the Cauvery Delta, a new circle of superintendence, the Tanjore Circle, was formed for a period of two years. To supervise the construction of the Coleroon Bridge Works at Trichinopoly, the Government sanctioned the appointment of an officer of the rank of Executive Engineer for a period of one year and nine months from 1st April 1926.

The Cauvery-Mettur Project Works made good progress as regards preliminary work in connexion with the formation of a standing camp at Mettur to house 5,000 coolies, officers' quarters, subordinates and clerks' quarters and a protected water-supply. The road from Erode to Mettur, 37 miles, was metalled and bridged almost throughout. An officer proceeded to England in April in connexion with the settlement of a scheme for a system of overhead ropeways and plant to be used on the Project Works. Preliminary plant was ordered through the Stores Department at Delhi and will be in use in April 1927. In consequence of the floods of 1924 and the further exposure of rock in searching for the best site for the dam, a new site was chosen one mile

upstream of the sanctioned site. Owing to the accelerated programme for the execution of the Project, three more divisions (camps and buildings, stores and tests, and canal system No. 2 division) were formed during the year and two canal divisions were constituted into an additional circle of superintendence.

The new Kattalai canal in the Trichinopoly district came into existence in July. The new six feet shutters on the Kistna anicut at Bezwada proved to be of great value to the Kistna Delta during the failure of the north-east monsoon. The Periyar Dam surplus escape protection made good progress, in spite of a very malarious climate. The Polavaram Island Project was started during the year and an estimate for Rs. 2·89 lakhs for the Girisola channel project in the Ganjām district was sanctioned. The Atleru project in the Nellore district and the Badathalov project in the Salem district were abandoned.

The temporary division and two subdivisions, sanctioned during 1925 for the investigation of hydro-electric schemes, continued during the year and an additional Executive Engineer's post was sanctioned for work in connexion with the Pykara Hydro-electric Project.

Finance

20. The year 1924–25 closed with a deficit of Rs. 29 lakhs, due mainly to charges incurred in connexion with the damages caused by the floods and cyclones of that year.

The budget estimates for 1925–26 anticipated a surplus of Rs. 29·58 lakhs, after taking into account a remission of Rs. 126·02 lakhs in the provincial contribution to the Central Government. The year actually closed with a surplus of about Rs. 98½ lakhs. This was mainly the result of increased

receipts under Land Revenue and Excise and short expenditure under various heads.

The budget estimates for 1926–27 as presented to the Legislative Council on the 2nd March 1926 anticipated a deficit of Rs. 76·46 lakhs, liberal provision having been made for new schemes of expenditure which had been held up during the preceding years of financial stress. The remission of a further sum of Rs. 57 lakhs in the provincial contribution, combined with the voting by the Legislative Council of certain further demands, reduced the deficit anticipated in the year to Rs. 31·74 lakhs.

Excise

21. During the year 1926 there was no interference by non-co-operators with the administration of the Excise Department. The experiment of closing arrack shops in certain toddy-drinking areas in Tanjore, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and Salem districts, which was started on 1st April 1924, continued during the year and the sale of liquor to the hill tribes on the Nilgiris, except on a medical certificate, was also prohibited. The experiments worked satisfactorily except in two taluks, where the closure of arrack shops led to illicit distillation and the smuggling of Travancore arrack.

The Government accepted the recommendation of the Excise Advisory Committee to constitute licensing boards in major municipalities and excise advisory committees in revenue divisional areas with non-official majorities. The new bodies will be constituted shortly.

There was an increase in excise revenue under all heads except country spirits and foreign liquor, the increase being comparatively large in the case of toddy revenue under both rentals and tree-tax.

The increase in tree-tax was mainly due to the enhancement in the rates of tree-tax in certain districts from 1st October 1925. The increase in ganja shop rentals, was due to the better quality supplied during the year and probably also to measures taken to check smuggling from Mysore. The apparently large increase of revenue from the sale of opium is accounted for by a change which was made last year in the system of accounts. The sale proceeds of opium are now credited in full under one head of account, "Excise," and a corresponding debit for the cost price of the opium as issued by the factory is raised by the Central Government against the Provincial Government. In former years the difference between the factory issue price and the price at which it was issued to the retailers was shown as the net revenue under the head "Gain on sale proceeds of opium."

There was a fall in the consumption of arrack in the first quarter of the year. There was an increase in the consumption of hemp drugs, due to the same causes which contributed to the increase in ganja shop rentals.

Births and deaths

22. The birth-rate during the year showed an increase when compared with that of the previous year although the rate was still below the estimated Presidency average. There was an increase in the death-rate on account of increased mortality from fevers, dysentery and diarrhœa and respiratory diseases. A marked decrease was noticeable in the mortality from cholera and small-pox but the death-rate from plague showed a slight increase during the year.

Public health

23. The Public Health Department was able to continue its normal expansion during the year and much was done in the direction of educating the

public in health matters and in endeavouring to inculcate some sense of responsibility in personal hygiene. The Madras Health Council continued its propaganda work. Large quantities of leaflets and posters were distributed and a cinema film on malaria was exhibited at several centres. As it was found that a large proportion of the work done by the Council fell on the shoulders of officers of the Public Health Department, proposals were submitted to Government for the formation of a propaganda section to be in charge of an officer of the department. The question is now under the consideration of Government.

The Health and Baby Week of 1926 was the third of its kind to be held in this Presidency and the Week was celebrated with considerable success in over 6,000 centres.

The number of municipalities which employed Health Officers increased and an additional 32 Health Inspectors were appointed for rural areas.

The District Health Scheme continued to work satisfactorily and statistics were collected by several Health Officers on various aspects of cholera and other diseases.

The International Health Board continued its campaign against hookworm under its local representative, Dr. J. F. Kendrick. After five years' work on investigation and propaganda, it was decided to make a determined effort to give practical effect to the campaign in one or more local areas. The Madura District Board contributed a sum of Rs. 25,000 and the operations were conducted in the Usilampatti Union of Madura district, where the campaign was still being carried on at the end of the year. This experiment is an attempt to attack a problem of immense magnitude, the

solution of which would have a far-reaching effect on the health of the population.

During 1925–26 nearly two million persons were vaccinated with a success rate of over 94 per cent and the problem of maintaining a lymph vaccine of high protective value in Madras may be considered to have been solved.

At the close of the year the delegation from the British Social Hygiene Council worked in Madras for a fortnight. During the year a separate post of Professor of Hygiene was sanctioned.

Medical relief

24. As the scheme of maintaining rural dispensaries proved popular and a number of local boards expressed their readiness to open additional dispensaries, the Government sanctioned an increase in the number of rural dispensaries during the year, undertaking to grant subsidies for a maximum of three rural dispensaries in each taluk board area. Accordingly, sixty-five additional rural dispensaries were sanctioned during the year.

As the Gōdāvari District Board, Gōdāvari East, for financial reasons had to close the Local Fund Hospital for Women and Children at Cocanada, the Government took over the hospital from 1st September 1926, as it was considered to be an important institution serving the needs of the female population of the district. The Municipal Hospital, Negapatam, was added to the list of centres for anti-rabic treatment. A third bacteriological unit at the King Institute was sanctioned during the year. The units played an important part in investigating malaria in several parts of the Presidency and the cholera epidemic amongst groundnut coolies in Pollāchi, Coimbatore district. A separate Health Officer was sanctioned for the

Nilgiri district. A scheme for the training of dhais for six months in headquarter, women and children hospitals and in municipal and taluk headquarter hospitals was sanctioned during the year with a view to enabling them to settle in rural areas after the training. A "refresher" course for compounders and midwives was also sanctioned. A re-organization of the nursing staff in the headquarter hospitals which were not included in the original scheme of 1922 was sanctioned from 1st April 1926. In consequence of the dearth of fully qualified nurses and the shortage of quarters, the scheme has not been brought into full effect. Additional concessions were offered in order to render the nursing service more attractive. The Madras Nurses and Midwives Act was passed by the Legislative Council during the year and it will be brought into force as soon as necessary rules have been framed.

As the voluntary scheme sanctioned in 1925 for the conduct of medical inspection in schools has not been availed of to the fullest extent, the Government considered that it would be ultimately necessary to make compulsory the medical examination of all pupils studying in recognized secondary schools and school departments. As a first move, they directed the introduction of compulsory medical inspection in all Government secondary schools and school departments of Government colleges.

The number of candidates seeking admission in the medical schools as private pupils showed a marked decrease and was probably due to the fact that the opportunity of entrance into Government service has been largely reduced and also to the restriction of admission to the medical schools to

candidates who have taken up either chemistry or physics as their optional subject in the school-final. The civil assistant surgeons, who were deputed for training during 1925 in bio-chemistry at the Medical College, Madras, practical pharmacology at the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, and the investigation of indigeneous drugs, also at Calcutta, continued their courses during the year. A number of selected civil assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons were posted for training in special subjects such as X-Ray, Dental Surgery, Ophthalmology, Midwifery and Tuberculosis.

The reduction of the staff of Government sub-assistant surgeons continued during the year owing to the employment of private medical practitioners by local bodies in place of Government sub-assistant surgeons. With a view to mitigating the hardship caused to the existing staff, the Government have asked district boards to appoint their own medical officers to local fund institutions, other than those at taluk headquarters, only up to a maximum of one-fourth of the number of sub-assistant surgeons' posts held by Government medical officers in the districts.

Education 25. Turning to education, the most important feature of the year was the development of the facilities for elementary education. The report on the elementary education survey, alluded to in last year's report, revealed the fact that there were 4,037 school-less centres each with a population of 500 and above. In pursuance of the policy formulated by Government to provide such centres with schools, sanction was accorded for the opening of 566 board elementary schools and 642 aided elementary schools, the necessary funds being

placed at the disposal of the taluk boards and district educational councils. A new agency was created in the field of elementary education by authorizing village panchayats to open elementary schools and sanction was accorded for the opening of 300 schools under panchayat management. The education tax was levied in 25 municipalities and in 96 taluk board areas during the year.

The Āndhra University Act came into force on 26th April 1926 and the Senate of the Āndhra University was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor in August. Three colleges became first grade colleges and Government sanctioned the opening of Group I of the Intermediate course in the Government Muhammadan College, Madras.

The conference of officials and non-officials, appointed by Government to consider the re-organization of secondary education, met three times during the year but did not complete the report. Mention has already been made of the introduction of compulsory medical inspection in all Government secondary schools and in the school departments of Government colleges.

The post of Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, which had been held in abeyance, was revived during the year and the post of additional temporary Sub-Assistant Inspectress, sanctioned for the Kistna district, was made permanent. Two temporary posts of the same nature were also sanctioned.

A South Indian language, which had been hitherto only an optional subject, was made compulsory for the European Middle School Examination. The revised Code of Regulations for European Schools was approved by Government and published during the year.

The employment of a special assistant to the District Educational Officer, Malabar, was sanctioned for a period of one year for the purpose of dealing with problems connected with the organization and development of Māppilla education.

To strengthen the subordinate inspecting staff of the department, Government sanctioned the employment of 71 junior-grade Deputy Inspectors.

PART II

THE REPORT

CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 11 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

POLITICAL

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 12 to 40 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 41 to 63 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

4. In paragraph 97 on page 49 of the administration report for 1921–22 it was stated that there

The Secretariat

were eight Secretaries to Government including the two Chief Engineers of the Public Works Department who acted as Secretaries to Government, one dealing with Irrigation and the other with all Government Public Works except Railways. In the year 1925-26, the Government sanctioned the creation of a temporary appointment of Collector and Secretary to Government in the Indian Civil Service for six months with effect from 21st May 1925. The officer appointed acted as non-technical Secretary to Government dealing with all matters relating to the Public Works Department. Subsequently in February 1926 the Secretary of State for India sanctioned this appointment and the consequent addition of one to the number of Collectors in the cadre of the Indian Civil Service. The result of this arrangement is that there are now seven Secretaries to Government instead of eight, and the two Chief Engineers in the Public Works Department no longer act as Secretaries to Government.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

5. *Vide* pages 64 to 70 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY

6. *Vide* pages 71 to 83 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

7. *Vide* pages 84 to 99 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

8. *Vide* pages 100 to 116 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

The scheduled districts

9. On the last day of the year 1924-25, the Government issued an order that the Kistna district should be divided into two as the abolition of the Agency division and the restoration of the Agency areas to the districts from which they had been separated rendered it impossible for the districts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam and Gōdāvari to take any additional area or to afford any relief to the Kistna district. The division of the Kistna district into two separate district charges was given effect to from 15th April 1925. The Government decided that the new district, which was formed in the northern and eastern parts of the old Kistna district, should be called the West Gōdāvari district and that the existing Gōdāvari district should be called the East Gōdāvari district. The headquarters of the new West Gōdāvari district were located temporarily at Masulipatam, but in May 1926 the Government finally decided that Ellore should be the headquarters of the district.

DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1921—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

10. *Vide* pages 117 to 120 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1925-26)

11. His Excellency the Right Honourable George Joachim Goschen, Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., continued to hold office throughout the year. The Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham, C.S.I., I.C.S., resigned the office of Member of Council on the afternoon of the 27th April 1925 and the Hon'ble Mr. T. E. Moir, C.S.I.,

C.I.E., I.C.S., was appointed Member of Council by Royal Warrant, in succession. There was no change in the Ministry. The Hon'ble Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., continued to be the Vice-President of the Executive Council during the year.

His Excellency the Governor's Tours

12. During the year 1925-26 His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Viscount Goschen, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., Governor of Madras, made the following tours :—

Chittoor district — His Excellency with Viscountess Goschen toured in the Chittoor district from the 15th to the 19th July 1925 and visited Chittoor, Punganūru, Madanapalle, Chandragiri and Tirumalai. On return to Ootacamund His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the irrigation project at Mettur on the 20th July.

Madras — On the 17th August His Excellency left Ootacamund for Madras to open the session of the Legislative Council. While at Madras, he presided at a public meeting held to adopt the report of the Executive Committee of the Madras Central Relief Fund which had been formed for affording relief to sufferers in the floods of July 1924. On return to Ootacamund His Excellency halted at Vellore on the 25th August to open the hostel attached to the Vellore Arabic College.

On the 9th September His Excellency inspected at Pōdanūr the annual camp of exercise of the Nilgiri-Malabar Battalion.

Ānamalais, Cochin and Travancore — His Excellency accompanied by Viscountess Goschen left Ootacamund on the 9th October on a tour to the Ānamalais, Cochin and Travancore, and the Tinnevelly district. After spending three days at Valparai whence he visited several estates in order to acquaint himself with planting conditions there, His Excellency arrived at Ernakulam on the 12th October. While at Ernakulam, His Excellency unveiled the statue of His Highness the ex-Raja of Cochin. His Excellency also visited British Cochin and inspected the harbour works.

From Cochin His Excellency proceeded to Trivandrum making brief halts en route at the Periyār Dam, Peermade and Quilon. During His Excellency's stay in Cochin and Travancore His Excellency was the guest of the rulers of the States, with whom he exchanged informal visits, and saw the most important public institutions. After halting for a night at Cape Comorin His Excellency with Viscountess Goschen motored to Tinnevelly on the 23rd October. In the Tinnevelly district His Excellency visited the towns of Tinnevelly, Pālamcōttah and Tuticorin. Addresses were received from the municipal councils of these places and the District Board. On the way to Madras His Excellency halted at Māyavaram where he opened the students' hostel and reached Madras on the 27th October. Tinnevelly district

On the 18th December 1925 His Excellency motored from Madras to Vellore to visit the Police Training School and Recruits'. School, and to witness the Presidency Police sports. Vellore

His Excellency accompanied by Viscountess Goschen visited Parlākimedi on the 27th January 1926 to inaugurate the Railway extension to Gunupur. On the 16th February 1926 His Excellency motored from Madras to Melvisharam, near Vellore, where he opened the dispensary founded by C. Abdul Hakim Sahib Bahadur. On the 27th March His Excellency visited the Reformatory School at Chingleput, where he presided at the annual athletic sports and distribution of prizes. Parlākimedi

Chingleput

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1335—1ST JULY 1925 TO 30TH JUNE 1926)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1335; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prices and Wages in India*]

13. There are no tracts which require special notice on the ground of any permanent lowering in the standard of agricultural prosperity. General

Stocks and prices of food-grains

Stocks of grain were generally sufficient. The prices of the principal food-grains were at first lower than in the corresponding period of the previous fasli except in Trichinopoly and the South where the yields had been below normal. Prices fell steadily in most districts after September in the case of dry grains and after November in the case of rice owing to the fair harvests of both the early and the late season crops. Prices at the end of the fasli were generally lower than prices at the end of the previous fasli. Moreover, as the rate of fall in prices was generally more rapid than during the previous fasli, there was a greater divergence between the prices of corresponding months at the end of the fasli than at the beginning in most districts. Prices were at the lowest level from February to May for rice and March to June for cholam and ragi ; for cumbu, the period of lowest prices was August to October in the Circars, November to January in the Deccan and Nellore, and February to April in the other districts.

Prices of articles of import and export

Prices of articles of import declined except in the case of betelnuts, while prices of articles of export showed an advance except in the case of raw cotton, cotton twist and yarn, piece-goods, groundnut, gingelly, castor, unrefined sugar and oil-cakes. There was a very heavy fall in the world price of sugar owing to the record outturn of the Cuban crop, the large yield of the Java crop, and the rapid recovery of the beet-sugar industry in Europe. Local prices of white Java sugar rose slightly in May, but fell by more than 25 per cent at the end of October ; since then, there has been a slight rise, the closing price for the year being slightly less than at the beginning. The price of jaggery, however, rose slightly. The prices of Madras cottons fell gradually in sympathy with the decline in the price of American cotton which yielded a record crop. The prices in March 1926 were lower than those in April 1925 by about 20 per cent for Cambodia, 25 per cent for Tinnevellies, and more than 35 per cent for Northerns, Westerns and Cocanadas. High prices prevailed for groundnut seed in May and June 1925. The local prices for ordinary seed rose from Rs. 57 per French candy at

the beginning of April 1925 to Rs. 66 at the end of May, but gradually declined to Rs. 45 at the end of December; thereafter the price began to improve, the closing price for the year being Rs. 53-8-0. The price of pepper rose from Rs. 30 to Rs. 90 per cwt. during the year as there was a great demand for the produce of the West Coast owing to the partial failure of crops in the Malay Peninsula and the Spice Islands. The price of ginger was high as the yield was low. The price of Bimilipatam jute was also high. There was a sudden and considerable fall in the price of turmeric in the year. The price of coffee rose in the early part of the year owing to good demand, but began to decline in the latter part owing to good stocks in London and the unsettled conditions of the franc exchange. The price of tea rose slightly owing to good demand. The average declared value of rubber rose by 50 per cent owing to the greatly increased consumption and shortage of stocks.

Wages

Employment was generally available. Wages continued to be high in spite of the noticeable fall in the price of food-grains and cloth, thus leaving a larger margin for the casual labourer who was paid in money and not in kind.

Condition of the ryot

The year was generally prosperous except in Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and the South except Madura. There was a large development of motor traffic in the Presidency consequent on the fall in prices of motor vehicles. Motor traffic in most places is supplementing railway traffic and has affected the earnings of other vehicular traffic. There is a tendency for agricultural labourers in the tracts, where cotton and groundnut are extensively grown, to move to towns and engage in industrial labour in the new cotton ginning and groundnut decorticating factories. A large amount of labour is also employed on the new railway lines, irrigation projects, etc., under construction. There was an increase in the emigration to Burma, Assam, Ceylon, and the Straits Settlements on account of the prosperity of the tea and rubber industries in those countries.

The ryot in the Circars had a good season as in the previous year and his indebtedness is on the

decrease. In the coastal villages in parts of Kistna and Guntūr, the cyclone in May 1925 damaged houses and fodder stacks and destroyed cattle, but Government loans and free grants of timber and private relief committees alleviated the distress to some extent. In spite of the reduced yields and low prices of cotton, the Deccan ryot partially replenished his stores of food-grains and fodder. There was greater contentment and less crime, but the poorer ryots were unable to reduce their debts appreciably. The ryot in the Carnatic districts and Chittoor was fairly prosperous and in North Arcot and Madura his condition was better than in the previous three years. In Coimbatore, the small farmer accepted work as a day labourer and emigration increased in parts. There was no improvement in the condition of the ryot in Tanjore for, though the yield was better than in the previous year, prices fell immediately after the harvest. Ryots in the South who had held up the previous year's stocks of paddy and cotton in the hope of securing remunerative prices were affected by the falling prices. The West Coast ryots recovered from the effects of the floods in the two previous faslis, and benefited by the high prices of pepper, copra and ginger.

The cultivation of non-food crops, especially cotton and groundnut, at the expense of food crops and regardless of rotations is increasing rapidly. The area under groundnut, which was about 74,000 acres in 1882-83, has reached the figure of 2·6 million acres and the crop is now grown on all kinds of soil. The rapid spread of the crop in the unirrigated tracts of the Circars and the Deccan, which are liable to frequent scarcity or famine, and the export of groundnut seed and oil-cake is reducing the local supplies of fodder and oil-cakes and increasing their price.

The insufficiency and high cost of manures continues to be a serious handicap to the increased yield of crops. However, in the year under review there was a decrease in the export to other countries of indigenous manures such as fish, bone and oil-cake, while the value of the imports of artificial manures was Rs. 7,19,552, an increase of nearly 110 per cent over the previous year's figures.

POLITICAL PENSIONS (1925-26)

14. The political pensions in force on 1st April 1925 amounted to Rs. 2,48,991-6-0 and were distributed among 435 pensioners. During the year under report, pensions amounting to Rs. 2,176 were newly sanctioned, and pensions amounting to Rs. 5,567-2-0 lapsed.

Nine pensioners died during the year, the pensions of ten persons were commuted, two pensions were transferred to other provinces, and one pension was reduced. Twenty pensioners were newly added to the list. The pensions in force on 1st April 1926 amounted to Rs. 2,45,600-4-0 and were distributed among 434 pensioners.

The payments made to the Carnatic stipendiaries and the Tanjore family aggregated to Rs. 1,88,716-8-0 and Rs. 27,537-4-0, respectively. These amounts included Rs. 7,702 on account of commutations of Carnatic pensions.

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

SOURCES AND REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE

(FASLI 1334—1ST JULY 1924 TO 30TH JUNE 1925)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1334; Statistical Abstract for British India—Land Revenue*]

Sources of land revenue

15. The land revenue of the Presidency is derived from the undermentioned sources :—

(*a*) peshkash or revenue from permanently settled estates,

(*b*) shrotriyam jodi or quit-rent levied on inam villages,

(*c*) assessment including water-rate on lands held under the ryotwari system,

(*d*) miscellaneous revenue, and

(*e*) proprietary estates village service.

The total amount of peshkash payable during the fasli was Rs. 49,93,967 as against Rs. 50,12,575 in the preceding fasli.

The quit-rent payable on villages held on shrotriyam or favourable tenure was Rs. 7,56,585 as against Rs. 7,57,078 in the preceding fasli.

Ryotwari holdings

The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 26·58 million acres which exceeded the extent of the previous year (as now revised) by 140,846 acres. The increase was contributed by all the districts. The marked increase in Kurnool (26,357 acres) was attributed to the growing demand for land on account of the good prices realized by the sale of groundnut which made it profitable to cultivate land which had previously not been cultivated. The increases of 12,028 acres in Bellary, of 11,043 acres in Trichinopoly, of 11,024 acres in North Arcot and of 10,931 acres in Guntūr were due to assignments made to the

depressed classes and to ex-army men and to general assignments of land made during the fasli.

The total assessment on holdings was Rs. 561·39 lakhs against Rs. 557·67 lakhs in the previous year (as now revised), showing an increase of Rs. 3,71,528 which was shared by all the districts except Anantapur, where, in spite of an increase of 7,193 acres in the total extent of holdings, there was a decrease of Rs. 7,382 in the total assessment. This decrease was due to the reduction in the money rates of dry lands of black cotton soil taluks (Gooty and Tadpatri) sanctioned by Government in March 1925. The marked increase in Trichinopoly (Rs. 2,16,070) was due chiefly to the introduction of resettlement rates in the kadarambam tracts of the district.

The total area cultivated in ryotwari holdings during the year was 20·10 million acres as compared with 19·28 million acres in the previous fasli. The area under dry (15,256,055 acres) showed an increase of 712,349 acres and that under wet (4,842,050 acres), an increase of 101,956 acres. The increase under dry was marked in Anantapur, Bellary and Coimbatore and that under wet in North Arcot. Including the area under "miscellaneous cultivation" the total area cultivated was 21·10 million acres against 20·22 million acres in the previous year.

Water-rate and second-crop charges

The revenue derived from water-rates and charges for second crop amounted to Rs. 30·33 lakhs against Rs. 28·64 lakhs in the previous year. There was thus an increase of Rs. 1,68,766. The increase occurred in all the districts except Gōdāvari West, Kistna, Kurnool, Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura and Malabar, and it was particularly large in Nellore owing to timely rains and the favourable season.

Remissions

As compared with the previous year there were decreases under "season remissions" and "fixed remissions" and an increase under "beriz deductions." The total amount remitted was Rs. 27,71,096 as against Rs. 36,91,553 in the previous fasli. There was a marked increase in the amount remitted under the head of "season remissions" in

the districts of Trichinopoly and Tanjore on account of the heavy floods which caused damage in these districts in the year 1924.

Miscellaneous revenue

Miscellaneous revenue amounted to Rs. 118·12 lakhs as against Rs. 105·69 lakhs in the previous fasli. Enhanced charges for the occupation of poramboke lands amounting to Rs. 3,46,380 were levied on 31,590 acres. As regards the progress made in the reclassification of lands registered as poramboke, there were no lands of this class to be reclassified in the districts of Madras and Malabar; the work was reported to be complete or nearly complete in all the other districts except Ganjām where it was still in progress at the end of the fasli.

Total land revenue demand

16. The current demands under land revenue and cesses are shown below and compared with the figures for the previous year :—

	Fasli 1333.	Fasli 1334.
	RS.	RS.
Peshkash on permanently settled estates...	50,12,575	49,93,967
Shrotriyam jodi	7,57,078	7,56,585
Ryotwari and miscellaneous	6,55,00,795	6,82,12,576
Cesses on permanently settled estates ...	21,24,760	20,87,861
Cesses on whole inam villages	5,39,766	5,45,036
Cesses on ryotwari and miscellaneous ...	65,22,435	67,32,004

Collections

17. The current demand under land revenue and cesses during the fasli was Rs. 8,39,59,879. A sum of Rs. 8,18,39,341 or 97·47 per cent was collected within the fasli and Rs. 2,290 were written off the accounts. A sum of Rs. 29,32,306 or 86 per cent of the balance due for arrears of land revenue was collected and written off during the fasli. The balance outstanding at the end of the fasli including both "arrears" and "current" was Rs. 25,91,376.

Charges

18. The charges of district administration including the salaries and allowances of revenue inspectors, but excluding those of village establishments, were Rs. 1,12,74,250 or 13·78 per cent of the land revenue and cesses realized. The village service charges (including those of proprietary estates) during the fasli were Rs. 1,07,29,430. Including this sum the total charges were Rs. 2,20,03,680 or 26·89 per cent of the collections of land revenue and cesses against 26·46 per cent in

the previous fasli. The establishment charged to land revenue performs multifarious duties of which the administration of the land is only one. The actual cost of the collection of land revenue cannot therefore be calculated with any exactitude ; but it is certainly far less than the charges debited to this head.

Coercive processes

19. During the fasli, 928,281 coercive processes were issued for the realization of Government dues including 740,795 demand notices, 95,118 distraint or attachment notices, 84,456 sale notices ; and the property of 7,912 defaulters was sold. The decrease in the number of demand notices was due to the cessation of the no-tax campaign in the Tanjore district, the favourable character of the season in several other districts and the strict observance of the rule that these notices should be issued only when absolutely necessary. Out of 95,118 defaulters whose property was attached, only 10,662 paid up the arrears before sale notices were issued. There was a decrease in the number of sales of personal property and an increase in the number of sales of immovable property. Immovable property of the value of Rs. 3,71,715 was sold for recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 1,26,433, and the amount realized was Rs. 1,31,757. The price fetched on land sold to private individuals amounted on the average to three and a half times the assessment in the case of dry lands and seven and a half times in the case of wet lands. The extent of land sold during the year was 11,288 acres of dry land and 2,129 acres of wet land. The total area of land bought in by Government for lack of bidders was 6,558 acres of dry land and 736 acres of wet land.

Transfers of registry

20. Transfers of revenue registration fall under the following two main heads:—

(1) applications and notices received from Sub-Registrars ;

(2) applications and intimations received from parties, village officers and others.

Under the first head 345,402 applications were received during the fasli as against 333,524 in the previous fasli, the increase being 11,878 or 3·56 per

cent. The bulk of the increase occurred in the districts of Guntūr, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Tinnevelly and Salem. Under the second head the number received was 94,126 as against 94,770 in the previous fasli, the decrease being only 644 or 0·68 per cent. The total number of applications of all kinds to be dealt with in the fasli under report, including the number pending disposal at its beginning, was 550,618. Of these, 452,589 were disposed of during the fasli, leaving a balance of 98,029 as against 112,763 in the previous year.

Loans and advances

21. The advances made under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the year amounted to Rs. 17·16 lakhs and those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act to Rs. 20·04 lakhs, a total of Rs. 37·20 lakhs against Rs. 35·62 lakhs in the previous fasli. The difference was the net result of an increase in the amounts advanced in thirteen districts and a decrease in twelve districts. There were no transactions in Madras during the year. The advances granted in Anantapur, North Arcot, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, Tanjore and Malabar showed a considerable increase over those of fasli 1333. The increase in the first two districts was due to the unfavourable character of the season, while in the other districts it was due to the floods at the beginning of the year. The decrease in Bellary was due to the fact that the season was more favourable than in the previous fasli, while in South Kanara more advances were made last year on account of the floods. Loans at the concessional rates of interest at 4 per cent for the first two years and 6 per cent thereafter for reclamation of sanded lands, and at 4 per cent for the first five years and 7 per cent thereafter for purchase of seed grains, cattle, rebuilding and subsistence were sanctioned in the flood-affected districts. The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts, including the balance remaining unpaid out of sums which fell due in previous years, was Rs. 33,28,277, of which sum, Rs. 5,43,924 or 16·3 per cent was collected without resort to coercion and a sum of Rs. 11,09,580 or 33·3 per cent after issue of demand notices.

During the year, 931 wells were newly constructed and 1,471 wells were repaired with the aid of loans granted under the Land Improvement Loans Act.

SURVEYS

[*Report on the administration of the Survey Department for the official year 1925-26*]

Parties

22. During the year under report, the number of parties in the Survey establishment was reduced from seven to six with effect from 1st July 1925. The remaining six parties were principally engaged in the cadastral resurvey of the ryotwari areas in the various districts under resurvey.

Operations

23. The total outturn of the survey parties under cadastral resurvey of ryotwari areas was 1,895 square miles. In addition, an area of 65 square miles of waste and disafforested land in ryotwari villages and lands in which the Government are interested in proprietary villages, and an area of 226 square miles of other lands in proprietary estates were surveyed during the year. The survey of the Hindupur Municipality and of fifteen roads in the Hospet Municipality was the only special work carried out during the year.

SETTLEMENTS

[*Report on the administration of the Settlement Department for the year 1925-26*]

Parties

24. There were four settlement parties at work during the year under report—Party No. I in Tanjore, East Gōdāvari and West Gōdāvari districts, Party No. II in South Arcot and Kistna districts, Party No. III in Bellary and Anantapur districts, and Party No. IV in Trichinopoly, Madura, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly, South Kanara, Malabar and the Nilgiri districts.

In order to reduce the amount of work involved in the resurvey and resettlement of districts with the object of reducing the cost of such operations,

the Government, in November 1925, issued tentative orders that in areas where resurveys are made rough pattas should be issued on the basis of the land registers prepared by the Survey Department, and in areas where resurveys are not necessary they should be issued on the basis of the revenue adangals; also that objections to rough pattas should no longer be heard by Special Assistant Settlement Officers but by Special Deputy Tahsildars.

In some of the taluks mentioned below in the paragraph relating to settlement operations the work of resettlement was carried out in accordance with the simplified procedure contemplated in these orders of the Government; in other taluks resettlement work was done under the old system which was in force before these orders were issued. Under the old system rough pattas were issued only after the land registers prepared by the Survey Department had been scrutinized and checked by a staff appointed specially for the purpose, and objections to rough pattas were heard only by Special Settlement Officers and Special Assistant Settlement Officers.

Operations

25. Some details of the settlement operations of the year are given below.

In the East Gōdāvari district, field inspection preliminary to resettlement was completed in the Razole taluk. Resettlement work was carried out in the taluks of Amalāpuram and Rāmachandrapuram in accordance with the simplified procedure mentioned above.

In the West Gōdāvari district, resettlement work in the Narasapur and Tanuku taluks and in 24 villages of the Bhīmavaram taluk was carried out under the old system. Field inspection preliminary to resettlement was completed in these tracts and rough pattas were issued and objections heard. The simplified procedure was followed in 52 villages of the Bhīmavaram taluk. The survey of lands in which the Government have an interest in the non-Government villages of this district was in progress.

In the Kistna district field work preliminary to resettlement was finished in the taluks of Bandar

and Divi. The simplified procedure was followed in the Gudivāda taluk, where rough pattas were issued for 52 villages, and field inspection subsequent to the hearing of objections was completed in 35 villages. The final check of the records relating to the survey of lands in which the Government have an interest in all the non-Government villages of the Divi taluk was completed.

In the Anantapur district the revision of adangals was completed in Anantapur, Penukonda and Madakasīra taluks and was almost finished in Hindupur and Dharmavaram taluks. At the end of the year 1924–25 the Government ordered a reduction of the resettlement enhancement in the dry rates on certain classes of lands in the black soil taluks of Bellary and Anantapur districts. The correction of the accounts with reference to these orders was carried out during the year under report. Rough pattas were issued after the receipt of the orders of the Government on the scheme report for the resettlement of the red soil taluks of Bellary district. Objections to these pattas were heard and fair accounts were furnished to the ordinary Revenue establishment of the district. Revised rates of ground-rent were introduced in Bellary town and in the towns of the Gooty and Tadpatri taluks. Proposals for the revision of ground-rents in the towns of the red soil taluks of Bellary were submitted to the Government.

In the South Arcot district, work in connexion with the diglott registers of the district was completed. The survey records of the lands in which the Government have an interest in non-Government villages were received for 11 villages and final check was completed in 13 villages.

In the Tanjore district the diglott registers of 481 villages were despatched to the press. The settlement of lands in which the Government have an interest was completed in 67 out of 78 non-Government villages. The hearing of objections to rough pattas in connexion with the revision of ground-rent in the district was completed, and ground-rent registers were furnished to the ordinary Revenue establishment of the district.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

In the Trichinopoly district, fair accounts were furnished to the ordinary Revenue establishment for all villages except those comprised in the Trichinopoly and Srīrangam municipalities.

In the Tinnevelly district, fair accounts for all the 17 villages included in the Tinnevelly, Palamcottah and Tuticorin municipalities were furnished to the ordinary Revenue establishment of the district.

A scheme report for the resettlement of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads was submitted to the Government during the year.

Registers

26. The resettlement registers of 861 villages were sent to the press from the offices of the Parties, and the registers of 698 villages were printed and despatched to Collectors during the year.

Finance

27. The total expenditure during the year, including the cost of printing and binding resettlement registers, amounted to Rs. 11,38,990, the expenditure in the previous year being Rs. 10,92,569 as finally adjusted.

Revenue Records and Registration

[*Report of the Board of Revenue for the year 1925-26*]

28. In certain districts of the Presidency the establishment of Tahsildars was strengthened in order to provide for the better training of revenue subordinates in survey, the better supervision of the work of maintaining the survey marks in good order and to ensure that the work of registering and recording changes sanctioned in the ordinary course of the revenue administration should be more accurately done.

Training

29. Schools for the training of revenue subordinates in survey were held during the year in fifteen districts. The training of karnams in survey was conducted by competent revenue inspectors, and schools were held in all the districts except Vizagapatam and the Nilgiris.

Maintenance

30. The regular maintenance of land records was in progress throughout the Presidency except

in parts of the following districts :—Trichinopoly, West Gōdāvari, East Gōdāvari, Kistna, Anantapur, Salem and South Kanara.

Sub-divisions

The number of subdivisions sanctioned during the year was 109,069, or 14 per cent more than the number sanctioned during the previous year. There was a slight increase during the year in the arrears under mapping and this is due to the fact that all the subdivision sketches are now subjected to stricter technical scrutiny. 66,321 subdivisions were effected on the applications of ryots, and a sum of Rs. 1,10,300 was collected on account of subdivision fees. Rs. 24,690 were paid to village karnams as remuneration.

Survey marks

The number of stones discovered to require renewal or repair was more than in the previous year, with the result that a greater number of stones were left unattended to at the end of the year. There was a considerable falling off in the number of repairs and renewals effected by the ryots themselves.

Great trigonometrical stations

31. The condition of the great trigonometrical stations and bench marks was generally satisfactory and necessary action was taken in respect of such as were in need of repairs.

WASTE LANDS

(FASLI 1335—1ST JULY 1925 TO 30TH JUNE 1926)

[*Season and Crop Report for the year 1925–26*]

32. The total area of the Presidency for which detailed information was received was 90·605 million acres of which a net extent of 33·833 million acres was under cultivation as against 33·339 million acres in the preceding fasli. The area classed as forest increased from 13·117 million acres to 13·159 million acres, while 21·117 million acres (or 0·398 million acres less than in the previous fasli) were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder, 10·144 million acres were fallow and 12·352 million acres formed cultivable waste other than fallow as against 10·067 million acres and 12·466 million acres, respectively, in the previous fasli.

NOTE.—The figures reported for the previous fasli are revised figures.

Chapter II ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

GOVERNMENT ESTATES

33. There is nothing to record under this head for the Presidency.

WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1334—1ST JULY 1924 TO 30TH JUNE 1925)

[*Report on the administration of the estates under the Court of Wards in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1334 (1924–25)*]

Estates under management

34. Eighteen estates were under the superintendence of the Court at the end of fasli 1333 including the Ūttumalai estate, which continued to be under formal superintendence. The South Vallūru (Part I) estate in the Kistna district came under management during the fasli. Thus the number of estates at the end of the fasli was nineteen.

Finance
Demand, collection and balance

35. The gross current demand of all the estates, excluding Ūttumalai, amounted to Rs. 27·92 lakhs and the net demand to Rs. 26·70 lakhs, the remission being Rs. 1·22 lakhs. There was a net increase of Rs. 2·11 lakhs in the demand of fasli 1334 which was the result of increases (Rs. 2·14 lakhs) in fourteen estates and small decreases (Rs. 0·03 lakh) in three others. The bulk of the increase occurred in Sivaganga (Rs. 1,31,185) where, as a result of survey, correct areas were adopted in some taluks. The increases in other estates were small. Out of the net current demand of Rs. 26·70 lakhs, Rs. 20·17 lakhs were collected and Rs. 0·07 lakh written off in the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 6·46 lakhs at its close. Excluding subsequent collections and remissions, as well as irrecoverable arrears which Collectors and Estate Collectors recommended for remission after the close of the fasli, the net recoverable balance on the 1st October 1925 amounted to Rs. 5·97 lakhs or 22·4 per cent of the demand. The balance was less than 1 per cent in four estates and less than 10 per cent in two other estates, while it exceeded 25 per cent in five estates.

The arrear demand at the beginning of the fasli of all the estates, excepting South Vallūru (Part I) which was newly taken over, amounted to Rs. 15·20 lakhs, of which Rs. 6·81 lakhs were outstanding at its close. There were no arrear balances in Mētrātti, Kūdapalli, Māmbārai and Ilayarasanēndal. The balances were below Rs. 1,000 in three estates, below Rs. 5,000 in two, and below Rs. 10,000 in two others. They exceeded Rs. 10,000 in the remaining six estates.

The aggregate revised cash balance at the beginning of the fasli, including Rs. 9,035 in South Vallūru (Part I) estate, was Rs. 3·51 lakhs. The total cash receipts during the fasli amounted to Rs. 36·96 lakhs. The total cash assets of the fasli were thus Rs. 40·47 lakhs. Deducting from this the total expenditure aggregating to Rs. 34·51 lakhs, the cash balance at the close of the fasli was Rs. 5·96 lakhs. Including Government promissory notes and other securities of the face value of Rs. 2·72 lakhs at the credit of certain estates, and the estimated value of grain on hand at the end of the fasli, Rs. 1·66 lakhs, the total closing balance to the credit of the estates was Rs. 10·34 lakhs. The ordinary receipts and charges of the fasli were Rs. 27·33 lakhs and Rs. 23·39 lakhs, respectively. Three estates—Bodokhemidi, Jeypore Kumārikā's estate and Sivaganga—had surplus balances exceeding a lakh of rupees at the close of the fasli. The surplus in Bodokhemidi will be utilized for the survey of the estate. In the Jeypore Kumārikā's estate it was invested in Government securities. In Sivaganga it was required to carry on the administration of the estate during the pre-kist months.

Agricultural improvements

The two agricultural farms attached to the Dēvaswam section of the Zamorin's estate continued to work during the fasli. The activities of the year were mainly directed to repairing the damage caused by the heavy floods of July 1924 and bringing the farms into order. On the Kalatikannu farm, the area under paddy cultivation was reduced to one-third of the usual area. The havoc in the coconut plantation was made good by planting fresh seedlings from the farm

nursery, and closer attention was bestowed on the bearing trees. As the rainfall during the north-east monsoon was neither timely nor adequate, 50 per cent of the new coconut plants withered and the paddy crop was indifferent. On the Pokkannu farm the principal paddy crop was a failure, and the second crop yielded only a small profit over the cost of cultivation of both the crops. The sugarcane cultivation also suffered badly and resulted in loss. On the whole, the year's results were discouraging but the condition of this farm has since improved. The combined agricultural and dairy farm attached to the Guruvāyūr Dēvaswam continued to work under the supervision of a trained agriculturist. Economical cultivation of paddy was aimed at during the year. This farm also demonstrated the advantage of applying artificial manures such as marwatti cake manure, which produced a much better outturn. Arecanut was the principal garden crop. It was not possible to make the dairy section self-supporting, but the combined agricultural and dairy farm was not a losing concern.

Establishment charges

The average percentage of establishment charges and the Government commission to normal receipts was 19·7 against 25·7 in fasli 1333. The increase in Bāgalūr and Shūlagiri was due to the entertainment of a special revenue inspector and to the payment of increased rate of pay and travelling allowance to the common manager. The percentage was high in Madukkūr owing to short receipts on account of the unfavourable season.

Maramat works

36. The Court's special attention was, as in previous years, bestowed on the Public Works branch of administration. Maramat programmes were framed and followed in all the estates except Bāgalūr, Madukkūr and Māmbārai in which financial conditions made it necessary to confine attention to works which were absolutely essential, the Zamorin's estate in which all lands are rain-fed, and Ilayarasanēndal which has no irrigation works of its own. In Sivaganga a very large portion of the available allotments

was devoted to the restoration of irrigation works. In order to encourage well-irrigation in the estate, the Estate Collector was permitted to grant loans to the ryots up to Rs. 20,000. Including the trust institutions, the total maramat allotment in all the estates was Rs. 5·69 lakhs. The value of the work done and the work paid for amounted to Rs. 5·35 lakhs and Rs. 5·33 lakhs, or 93·9 per cent and 93·6 per cent of the allotment respectively. The maramat expenditure of Rs. 5·33 lakhs was 16·6 per cent of the total ordinary charges (Rs. 32·00 lakhs) including those of trust institutions.

Debts

Debts due to the estates

37. The debts due to the several estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 12·96 lakhs, inclusive of Rs. 5·06 lakhs due to South Vallūru (Part I), newly taken over in the fasli. Including the loans newly granted (Rs. 0·05 lakh), debts newly brought to account (Rs. 0·21 lakh) and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0·51 lakh), the aggregate amount due was Rs. 13·73 lakhs, of which Rs. 2·00 lakhs were collected and Rs. 0·05 lakh were written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 11·68 lakhs at the close. The outstanding balance was large in Bodokhemidi, Jeypore Kumārikā's estate and South Vallūru (Part I). The debt in the South Vallūru (Part I) estate is that due by the Senior Zamindar in the final partition decree and is covered by the attachment of all his villages. A Receiver has been appointed for the execution of the decree and the Senior Zamindar's estate has been attached for the realization of the debts.

Debts due by the estates

The liabilities of the estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 17·45 lakhs inclusive of Rs. 3·60 lakhs due by the new South Vallūru (Part I) estate. Including the debts contracted (Rs. 0·83 lakh) and brought to account (Rs. 2·84 lakhs) in the fasli, and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0·71 lakh) the total liabilities aggregated to Rs. 21·83 lakhs, of which Rs 1·53 lakhs were repaid or struck off in the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 20·30 lakhs at its end. The outstanding debts exceeded Rs. 50,000 in seven estates, viz., South Vallūru (Part I), Ārni, the Zamorin's estate, Madukkūr, Kūdapalli, Sivaganga and Ilayarasanēndal.

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Encumbered estates

The provisions of section 45 of the Court of Wards Act continued to be in force during the fasli in the estates of Kadavūr, Ārni, Shūlagiri and Bāgalūr. Inclusive of interest the total debt payable by the Kadavūr estate amounted to Rs. 70,711, of which Rs. 26,180 was paid within the fasli and the balance subsequently. At the beginning of the fasli the outstanding liabilities of the Ārni estate amounted to Rs. 3·89 lakhs. It was not possible to repay more than Rs. 21,949 in the Ārni estate owing to expenditure on the marriage of the jaghirdar's son and the partial failure of the season. As regards the Shūlagiri estate all the admitted debts were cleared except that due to the Sivagiri estate, which is secured by the insurance policy of the late poligar. South Vallūru (Part I) estate has been brought under the provisions of section 45 of the Court of Wards Act. A scheme for the liquidation of debts will be framed soon.

Education of wards

38. As in previous years most of the wards attended local schools and colleges. The wards showed satisfactory progress in education. Their health and conduct were generally satisfactory.

Institutions attached to estates

Religious and charitable

39. The administration of the religious and charitable institutions was generally satisfactory and their financial condition sound on the whole. The jurisdiction of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has been extended to the religious institutions.

Educational

The second-grade college maintained by the Zamorin's estate worked satisfactorily during the year. Its total strength was 694, the highest during the last four years. The opening of a Botany section in the High School and the introduction of Indian History as an additional optional subject for the Intermediate course have materially contributed to the increase in strength. The results of both the Intermediate and S.S.L.C. examinations were on the whole satisfactory. Twenty-two scholarships were awarded (10 by the Government and 12 by the Management) besides full and partial free scholarships awarded to the backward classes. The Raja's High School and the Alice Millar's Girls' School in Sivaganga continued under the

supervision of the Zamindar, subject to the Estate Collector's general control. One middle school and two elementary schools (one for boys and the other for girls) were maintained by the Bodokhemidi estate. The working of these schools was satisfactory.

Field survey work

40. Field survey work was completed in the Sivaganga estate. Completion of survey has been notified for 115 villages. Commutation was introduced in most of the villages of Mānāmadurai and Tiruppattūr taluks. The introduction of commutation in the rest of the estate has been postponed on account of shortage of funds. In the Rāmapatnam estate the preliminary survey has been completed, and the survey areas will be introduced and necessary records will be prepared. In the major portion of the estate cash rents are already in force. The survey of the three villages in the Bodokhemidi estate which was ordered on the late Zamindar's application was completed and draft rent roll in settlement of rent was published in the fasli. The survey of the remaining villages has since been sanctioned. The South Vallūru (Part I) estate was surveyed when it was previously under the Court's management; but the maintenance work was much neglected and Government have since sanctioned a special staff to bring the old survey records and maintenance work up to date.

Estate forests

41. The forests in Sivaganga, Ārni, Mādugula, Kadavūr and Shūlagiri were worked under the rules sanctioned by Government under sections 26 and 32 of the Madras Forest Act. In Sivaganga the forest administration was under the direct control of the Zamindar subject to the Estate Collector's general control. A trained ranger was placed in charge of certain forests, while certain other forests continued to be under the control of Tahsildars. The District Forest Officer, Vizagapatam, continued to exercise supervision over the forests of the Mādugula estate, and instructions for their more efficient working have been issued by the Court. The Zamorin's estate's forests are under the charge of a trained ranger. The

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question of extending the provisions of the Madras Forest Act to the plains of the Bodokhemidi estate is under consideration.

Other estates

42. The Cochin portion of the Rāmapatnam estate continued to be under the management of the Cochin Darbar. Its receipts amounted to Rs. 19,987 and the expenditure to Rs. 16,105. Out of the debt of Rs. 63,858 due by the estate, a sum of Rs. 10,652 was paid during the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 53,206 the bulk of which is due to the Cochin Dēvaswam.

Miscellaneous

43. A son and heir-apparent was born to the Raja of Sivaganga. In commemoration of the grant of the title of "Raja" to the Zamindar of Sivaganga, a provident fund called "the Rajah Sahib's Provident Fund" was instituted for the benefit of the estate servants from 1st August 1924.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes

(Fasli 1334—1st July 1924 to 30th June 1925)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1334; Report on the working of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, during fasli 1334*]

Revenue-paying classes

44. Of the revenue-paying classes of this Presidency, the ryotwari pattadars are by far the largest class of persons who pay land revenue to the Government. Sub-letting of ryotwari lands was prevalent, especially by persons engaged in professions other than agriculture, by capitalists and large landholders. In the East Gōdāvari district there was a tendency, attributed mainly to high prices of food-grains, towards the cultivation of land by the landholders themselves. The practice of sub-letting did not exist to any appreciable extent in the districts of Cuddapah and Anantapur. In the latter district the absence of sub-letting was attributed to the poor quality of the soil and the limited means of the average ryot. In the Bellary district, sub-letting was on the decrease on account of the desire of ryots to secure for themselves an independent status. But the practice was prevalent in the areas under

the Tungabhadra channels in the Hospet taluk of the Bellary district, and in the Periyār tracts of the Madura district.

Rent-paying classes

45. By rent-paying classes are generally meant the tenants in the estates of zamindars and inamdars. During the fasli (1924-25) there was no evidence of a general tendency on the part of the tenants to alienate their lands to non-cultivating classes, except in some estates in the Ganjām district, and also in the Chettinād in Rāmnād district.

In certain estates the relations between the landholders and the tenants were not cordial. In some estates troubles arose over the collection of rent ; in one district the amani system of collecting rent (a share of the produce in kind) was, apparently, responsible for friction between the landlords and tenants ; in one estate the general clamour regarding the neglect of irrigation works continued. The strained relations between landlord and tenants in some estates gave rise to litigation.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

CHAPTER III

PROTECTION

LEGISLATING AUTHORITY

46. *Vide* pages 140 to 143 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1925-26)

Changes in the Council

47. Five by-elections were held in the Presidency during the year. Two were caused by the death of the representatives elected by the Madras City non Muhammadan Urban constituency and the North Arcot non-Muhammadan constituency ; the remaining three were consequent on the resignation of the members elected by the South Kanara non-Muhammadan Rural constituency, the Madras Chamber of Commerce constituency and the European constituency of the Madras Legislative Council. In three of these by-elections the candidates were returned unopposed.

The Zamindar of Khallikōta was nominated to the Madras Legislative Council in 1925 to represent the inhabitants of the backward tracts. Special members were nominated to the Legislative Council for the consideration of the Borstal Bill, the Nurses and Midwives Bill and the Andhra University Bill.

On the 10th September 1925, the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai, C.I.E., I.S.O., President of the Madras Legislative Council, died, and on the 7th October 1925 the Council met and elected the Hon'ble Mr. M. Ratnaswami as President.

Legislation

48. During the year notice was given for the introduction of 14 new Bills. Of these 8 were official Bills and 6 private members' Bills. One of

the non-official Bills, namely, the Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, was withdrawn ; two were not formally introduced before the close of the year. In two cases the Council declined to accept the motion to refer the Bills to a Select Committee. Three Bills introduced in the year previous to the year under report received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General and became Law, namely:—

(1) An Act to amend the Madras District Municipalities and the Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1921—Bill No. 3 introduced on 19th August 1924 received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on 1st April 1925 and became Act IV of 1925.

(2) An Act to amend the Local Boards Act, 1920—Bill No. 15 introduced on 6th December 1924 received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on 27th May 1925 and became Act V of 1925.

(3) An Act further to amend the City Municipal Act IV of 1919—Bill No. 14 introduced on 15th October 1924 received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on 27th May 1925 and became Act VI of 1925.

The following Bills introduced in 1925 received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General and became Law during the year (1925-26) :—

Bill No. 2 of 1925—The Cochin Port Trust Bill—Act VIII of 1925.

Bill No. 6 of 1925—An Act to amend the Madras Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act—Act VII of 1925.

Bill No. 11 of 1925—The Āndhra University Bill—Act II of 1926.

Bill No. 15 of 1925—An Act to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1908—Act I of 1926.

Two important Acts, namely, the Cochin Port Trust Act and the Āndhra University Act were passed during the year under report. The former Act provided for the constitution of a Board of Trustees under the control of the local Government to administer the Port of Cochin. The latter enabled the constitution of a teaching University for the Telugu districts of this Presidency.

By the passing of Act IV of 1925 a provision was introduced in the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1921, to the effect that " no person who has been elected or appointed a councillor or a member of a local board or who has become ex-officio member of a local board shall take his seat at a meeting of the Council or the local board or do any act as such councillor or member unless he has made the oath or affirmation as laid down in this Act."

POLICE (1925)

[*Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Police*]

General

49. There was a slight decrease in crime during the year under review. There were two riots of a serious nature, one in the Bellary district and the other in the Cuddapah district. At Uttangi in the Bellary district a long-standing dispute between the two subdivisions of the Lingayat community as to the right of a *guru* to go in procession with insignia through the village of Uttangi resulted in a serious riot on the 19th of October 1925. An attempt was made to execute a decree of the High Court establishing the rights of the *guru*, and a licence was issued by the District Superintendent of Police, which it was believed would meet the situation. On the 19th October the detachment of the Armed Reserve deputed to keep the peace, under the District Superintendent of Police and accompanied by the Joint Magistrate, was proceeding through the village to meet the *guru* at the other end. The party was strongly attacked by a mob which was warned but without result. There was imminent danger of the mob rushing the party, and finally the police opened fire on the mob. Fortunately a collision between the two rival parties was prevented. Three villagers were killed, three seriously wounded, of whom one died subsequently, and eleven slightly wounded. Six police officers were seriously injured. Another serious

disturbance took place on the 24th July at Proddatūr in the Cuddapah district. The Hindus of the Vaisya community were permitted to take a procession with music through the streets during the Muharram in accordance with a decree of the High Court. The procession was opposed by a large mob of Muhammadans, but the police effectively prevented the Muhammadans from breaking through the police cordon. In connexion with the rioting, 104 persons were charged, of whom 56 were convicted.

For the last few years the Ezhuvas of Palghat taluk have been endeavouring to improve their social status. In 1924 a number of them entered Kalpathi, a Brahman suburb of Palghat, from which they had been rigorously excluded, and were assaulted. A considerable number of Ezhuvas joined the Arya Samaj in order to secure free entry into the agraharam. The Brahmans again objected and a riot occurred in October 1925. To prevent further trouble during the car festival in November, the Subdivisional Magistrate passed an order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code prohibiting the entry of Ezhuvas, Cherumas and others into the agraharam during the festival.

On the whole, communal differences were not prominent during the year.

Administrative changes

50. With effect from 1st February the appointments of Personal Assistants to District Superintendents of Police were abolished, and 22 additional subdivisions were formed. A portion of the Kistna district was made a separate district called the West Gōdāvari district from 15th April 1925, and the Gōdāvari district was re-named East Gōdāvari district. The North and South Malabar districts were re-arranged with effect from 1st October by the transfer of the Palghat subdivision from the latter to the former. The names of the North and South Malabar districts were changed to Malabar and Malappuram districts, respectively.

Strength

51. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force (exclusive of the East Coast Special Police and the Malabar Special Police) was 29,393 on the

last day of the year, or 66 more than the figure for the previous year. The increase was mainly due to the addition of 39 appointments to the cadre of Sub-Inspectors to provide men for the Shorthand Bureau and to the transfer to the permanent establishment of the guard supplied to the Army Clothing Factory.

Recruitment 52. Recruitment was easy and enlistments were made chiefly in the districts of Coimbatore (114), Anantapur (104), Trichinopoly (78), Rāmnād (73) and Jeypore (67).

Casualties 53. Casualties in the permanent force numbered 1,495 against 1,489 in the previous year. There was an increase under resignations and discharges, as a number of men who enlisted during the year did not like the work and several were found unsuitable.

Health 54. The percentage of admissions into hospital increased but the daily sick-rate fell from 3·0 to 2·9.

Education 55. At the end of the year, 18 head constables (or 0·6 per cent) and 1,367 constables (or 6·1 per cent) were classed as illiterate. The Central Recruits' School at Vellore which had been closed in the previous year was re-opened from 3rd January. Five hundred recruits were received, of whom 93 left the force, 133 completed their training and 274 were under instruction at the end of the year. The Central Recruits' School, Anantapur, was re-opened on the 15th April and 341 recruits were admitted during the year, of whom 37 left the force, 148 were fully trained and sent back to their districts and 156 remained under training at the end of the year. In the Provincial Police Training School at Vellore there were one Probationary Assistant Superintendent of Police and one Probationary Deputy Superintendent of Police under training at the beginning of the year. They were posted to districts for practical training. A Probationary Deputy Superintendent joined on the 13th October and a Probationary Assistant Superintendent on the 16th November. At the end of the year there were under training one Inspector

and 57 Sub-Inspectors from the mufassal and one Sub-Inspector of the City Police. The educational attainments of the 50 Sub-Inspectors appointed towards the end of the year included one M.A., one B.A., B.L., and 14 B.As. The riding school was re-established at Vellore.

56. The percentage of the number of officers and men punished in the department during the year was 29·6 to the actual strength. **Discipline**

Dismissals numbered 242 as against 239 in the previous year. One Sub-Inspector, 3 head constables and 14 constables of Jeypore district were dismissed on charges of corruption. Dismissals

There was a further decrease in the number of Police officers convicted by criminal courts. Forty-seven officers were convicted for offences committed in their official capacity and 35 for offences committed in their private capacity. Convictions of police officers

During the year the King's Police Medal was granted to six officers. Four officers became Rao Sahib, three officers became Rao Bahadur, one officer received the M.B.E. and one received the O.B.E. An amount of Rs. 36,004 was distributed among 5,503 Police officers for good work. The Government sanctioned the grant of rewards to 3 Inspectors, 7 Sub-Inspectors, 9 head constables and 29 constables of the Tanjore district for their good work in connexion with the floods in the Tanjore district in 1924. Rewards

57. The number of Police officers below the rank of Inspector for whom quarters existed at the end of the year was 99 sergeants, 433 Sub-Inspectors, 2,058 head constables and 14,723 constables, the percentage of the sanctioned strength being 64·3, 28·5, 57·9 and 62·0, respectively. **Accommodation**

58. Proposals for the reorganization of the Armed Reserves are under consideration. The Armed Reserves, as at present constituted, were maintained in an efficient condition. An ambulance team drawn from the Madura Reserve competed at the All-India St. John Ambulance Competition held at Calcutta in January and won the Douglas Marshall Straight Challenge Cup for the second time. The Malabar Special Police and the East Coast Special Police were maintained **Armed Reserves**

throughout the year. The training of these two forces is receiving attention and they are inspected periodically by military officers.

Additional police

59. The Government ordered that additional police should be quartered at Teliki in the Anantapur district from 1st June 1925. After an inquiry held by a judicial officer, Government decided, in July, that the cost of the additional police, so far as it should fall on the inhabitants, should be borne by the partisans of the two factions that were responsible for the lawlessness which prevailed at Chintalacheruvu and in the surrounding villages during, and prior to, 1924.

Village police

60. Relations with the village magistrates and village *talaiyaris* continued to be much the same as usual. During the year, 491 village officers including *talaiyaris* were granted rewards by officers of the Police Department for good work. Rewards granted by District Magistrates, however, decreased in number.

Railway Police

61. There was no change in the jurisdiction of the Railway Police. Cases of theft decreased further from 2,067 to 1,689.

Derailments of trains

Attempts to derail trains numbered 10, the same as in the previous year, 5 in the Madras Railway Police district and 5 in the Trichinopoly Railway Police district. Three hundred and four persons were run over by trains and killed as against 300 in the previous year.

C.I.D.

62. The Criminal Investigation Department dealt with cases of murder, forgery, false coinage, cheating and postal fraud.

Finger-print Bureau

The Finger-print Bureau dealt with 18,641 references (13,794 from this Presidency and 4,847 from outside) for the identification and antecedents of unidentified persons. The percentage of references traced was 30·4 in the case of references from this Presidency and 9·9 in the case of references from outside.

Crime

Grave crime

63. There was a decrease in grave crime from 36,410 cases to 33,476 cases and the decrease which occurred in all classes of grave crime except murder was shared by a majority of the districts. With reference to the contention that the volume of

grave crime is relative to the trend of prices of staple food-grains, the following table shows the prices of staple food-grains and the true cases of grave crime during the last five years :—

Year.	Number of Government seers per rupee			Grave crime.
	Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.	
1921	5·5	8·2	8·8	39,301
1922	5·5	9·0	9·3	35,883
1923	6·0	10·4	9·8	32,955
1924	5·2	8·5	9·0	36,410
1925	5·2	9·4	8·8	33,476

Grave crime in the Ceded Districts decreased by about 30 per cent.

Offences against the person and property

Serious offences against the person and property numbered 19,127 as against 20,865 in the previous year, the ratio to the population being one case for 2,213 persons.

True cases of cognizable crime

The total number of true cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code, other than nuisances, fell from 53,255 to 50,126 and this decrease was common to most of the districts.

Criminal gangs

There were no important gangs of desperadoes such as were referred to last year at work during the year, after the destruction of the Kondigadu gang in the Kurnool district.

Bomb cases

In a case in Cuddapah district bombs were used to frighten the villagers. The case was detected and 9 persons were convicted.

Dacoity

In two instances house dacoities were committed by unusually large gangs. One dacoity was committed in the Vizagapatam district by a gang of 47 bad characters collected from villages in the Vizagapatam and Ganjām districts. In the other case, which occurred in the Kurnool district, the dacoits were about 30 in number. Tirupurananda Mudali, a known depredator of Tiruvallūr in Chingleput district, collected men from Tinnevelly, Tanjore and South Arcot districts and committed dacoities in Chingleput and South Arcot districts. The two dacoities committed in the South Arcot district were detected ; the leader of the gang was

sentenced to transportation for life and 15 other members of the gang were sent to prison.

Detection and prevention of crime

The percentage of detection remained almost the same as in the previous year—33·8 per cent as against 33·7 per cent. Out of a total of 47,376 cases reported to the Police (excluding offences against religion, public and local nuisances, offences under special and local laws declared to be cognizable and offences under the Criminal Tribes Act), investigation was refused in 3,239 cases. During the year, 1,166 persons were ordered by the courts to give security for good behaviour. Of these persons 352 were known depredators, 501 were petty thieves and 18 were receivers of stolen property. The number of persons sent to jail on account of failure to furnish the security required was 733.

Escapes

Escapes from Police custody numbered 92 as against 124 in the previous year. Of the persons who escaped during the year, 71 were recaptured in addition to 4 who had escaped in previous years.

False cases

The number of cases struck off during the year as wilfully and maliciously false was 3,735 as against 3,641 in the previous year. Out of 139,673 cases prosecuted by the Police, 56 cases were declared false after trial and enquiry.

Criminal Tribes Act

64. Sections 3 and 10 of the Criminal Tribes Act were applied to 15 criminal tribes. 7,867 persons were registered under the Act during the year. At the end of the year the total number of persons who had been registered under the Act, excluding the Kallars of Tanjore and including persons confined in settlements, was 37,288.

The result of bringing the Dandasis of the Ganjām district under the Act continued to be successful. The reformation movement made good progress and an Inspector of Police was appointed to establish communal panchayats among the members of this tribe.

Criminal settlements

65. Nine criminal settlements were managed throughout the year. Satisfactory progress in agriculture and weaving was made in the Siddhapuram Settlement in the Kurnool district.

Reformation of Kallars

66. During the year the work of reclaiming the Kallars of the Madura and Rāmnād districts

showed further development in the formation of panchayats and co-operative societies, in the grant of lands for cultivation and house-sites, in the grant of loans for the improvement of land, and in the management of industrial centres and schools. Reclamation work among the Kallars of Tanjore district could not be extended, as the Government were unable to provide funds.

Cost

67. The total cost of the department for the year 1925–26 was Rs. 1,54,56,687 against Rs. 1,63,79,538 in the year 1924–25.

Madras City Police

68. The jurisdiction of the City Police was enlarged by the addition of a small area from Chingleput district. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 1,984, or 15 more than the figure for the previous year. The actual strength on the 31st December 1925 was 1,966. Recruitment continued to be easy and discipline was well maintained. There was no decline in the general health of the force. Five men were convicted during the year, all for offences committed in their private capacity.

General

Crime

The total number of true cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code (excluding nuisances) was 2,806 as against 3,027 in 1924. There was more crime in the early part of the year, probably due to the influx of unemployed bad characters from the mufassal. A peculiarity of crime in the city during the year was the large number of burglaries and thefts committed. A notorious burglar responsible for not less than 23 burglaries in the city was at last caught and most of the stolen property was recovered. He was sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment. A system of classification of crime and criminals on the lines of the mufassal system, but modified to suit city conditions and restricted only to house-breaking and house thefts, was introduced. Nuisance cases fell from 32,603 to 25,846. Two cases of rioting deserve mention. The first was the outcome of a quarrel during a Muhammadan festival which resulted in the death of one person. The other was the Tondiarpet Election rioting case, which was the result of rivalry in the

municipal elections. A notorious swindler, Jayarama Ayyar alias R. Rama Ayyar, who started a bogus firm and swindled several merchants in the city to the extent of several thousands of rupees, was arrested in Bombay where he was negotiating and had all but succeeded in swindling the public to the extent of 20 lakhs of rupees. He was convicted.

The Intelligence Department

The work of the Intelligence Department is steadily increasing in every direction. The number of references dealt with during the year was 2,844 as against 2,501 in the previous year. Several cases of cheating were dealt with and special raids were conducted on a few gambling houses and to put a stop to the use of false weights and measures.

Traffic control

Several schemes for the regulation and control of traffic have been, and are being, introduced by the Police and the Corporation.

Cost

The total cost of the City Police force was Rs. 12,80,534 as against Rs. 12,29,329 in the previous year.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1925)

[*Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Criminal Justice*]

General

69. On the 31st December 1925, there were in the Madras Presidency the following Criminal courts :—

The High Court, 28 Sessions courts (including 3 for the Agency tracts) together with 2 Additional Sessions Judges, 25 District Magistrates' courts, 2 Additional District Magistrates' courts, 3 Presidency Magistrates' courts, 124 Subdivisional Magistrates' courts, 16 courts of Assistant and Deputy Magistrates without divisional charges, 459 Subordinate Magistrates' courts (including 146 Tahsildar-Magistrates' courts), 202 Benches of Magistrates (consisting of 1,527 Honorary Magistrates), 52 Special Magistrates' courts and 1 Honorary Magistrate's court.

In addition, the Subordinate Judges of Ootacamund, Guntūr, Masulipatam, Madura, Calicut, Nellore, Salem, Tanjore, Vizagapatam and Tinnevelly (Additional) exercised the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. 1,644 Village Magistrates and 2,004 Panchayat courts also exercised criminal jurisdiction.

Original cases

70. The total number of original cases instituted in the Criminal courts during the year was 345,472 or 4,737 less than in the previous year. There was a large increase in the districts of Malabar, Vizagapatam and Rāmnād; on the other hand there was a decrease in Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madras.

Village courts

In the Village Magistrates' courts the number of cases instituted fell from 4,484 to 3,703. The number of cases instituted in the Panchayat courts was 28,428 as against 23,100 in the previous year. The percentage of convictions to persons tried is higher in this class of courts than in Village Magistrates' courts, the figures for Bellary, Cuddapah and Madura being 94·02 per cent, 53·71 per cent and 22·61 per cent, respectively. The steady increase in the number of cases tried by Panchayat courts and the relatively high percentage of conviction in most districts seem to indicate that these courts are gaining confidence and performing a useful function.

Bench courts

In the year under report a new first-class Bench court was established at Bellary. 118,731 persons were tried by Benches of Magistrates in the Presidency as against 111,866 in the previous year and 87,668 persons were convicted after summary trial.

Regular Magistrates

The total number of cases instituted in the Regular Magistrates' courts in the mufassal was 188,854 as against 190,581 in 1924 and 4,940 cases were pending at the end of the year as compared with 5,004 at the close of 1924. Before Special Magistrates the average duration of cases was 3 days; before Bench courts, 3 days; before Sub-Magistrates, 12; before Assistant Magistrates, 14; before Joint Magistrates, 31; and before Deputy Magistrates, 32. The system of fixing particular days of the week for trying police cases had been

introduced in many districts and it was reported that it worked satisfactorily.

Presidency Magistrates

In the Presidency Magistrates' courts the number of cases instituted was 42,206 as against 46,495 in 1924 and 161 cases involving 293 persons who had appeared before the courts were pending at the close of the year.

Sessions courts

The number of cases committed to the courts of Session in the mufassal was 1,867 as against 1,873 in 1924. The courts to which the largest number of cases were committed were the courts of Coimbatore, Salem and Tinnevelly; there was a marked increase in the number of cases committed to the courts of Nellore, Madura and Trichinopoly, and a decrease in Bellary, Kurnool and South Malabar. The total number of cases pending in all the Sessions courts at the end of the year was 159, to which Coimbatore contributed the largest number, 47. The average duration of cases disposed of by Sessions courts rose from 49 to 51 days. The high average in Rāmnād and West Tanjore was attributed to the disposal of cases of 1924, in which retrial was ordered by the High Court; and the Sessions Judge of East Tanjore explained that the high average duration was due to the fact that the records of two cases of 1924 were sent to the High Court for reference.

High Court

The number of cases committed to the High Court Sessions was 25 as against 23 in the previous year; no case was pending at the end of the year. The percentage of convictions to the number of persons tried was 63·33.

Appeals

Magistrates' courts

71. Of the persons convicted and sentenced by second and third-class Magistrates 10,498 appealed to first-class Magistrates as against 10,341 in the year 1924. The average period that elapsed between the presentation of an appeal and its disposal in the courts of the Subdivisional Magistrates was 20 days as compared with 19 days in the previous year. The percentage of appellants successful was 37·84 as against 37·08 in 1924.

Sessions courts

Of the 9,216 persons convicted by first-class Magistrates, 3,154 appealed to Sessions courts. The average duration of appeals disposed of in the Sessions courts was 38 days as against 35 days in

1924. The percentage of appellants, for whom the convictions were reversed or proceedings quashed, was 32·62 as against 29·73 in the previous year. The number of cases in which convictions were reversed or proceedings quashed shows an increase of 267 over the figure for 1924.

One thousand two hundred and twenty-six convicted persons appealed to the High Court and the Government appealed against the acquittal of 59 persons. Of the 64 persons concerned in appeals against acquittals (including 5 persons whose cases were pending from the previous year) the acquittal of 31 persons was upheld, in the case of 8 the acquittal was set aside and a conviction recorded, while in the case of 8 the acquittal was reversed and a new trial ordered, and the cases of 17 persons were pending at the end of the year. High Court

As regards appeals against conviction, the appeals of 380 persons were rejected *in limine*. In the case of 353 persons the finding and sentences were maintained after notice and in the case of 105 persons the sentences were reduced or otherwise altered. In the case of 127 persons the conviction was reversed.

72. The following table shows the number of revision petitions taken up during the year :— Reference and revision

	Applications presented.	Cases taken up *suo motu*.
District Magistrates ...	653	20
Sessions courts	769	37
High Court	828	148 *

The total number of persons under trial during 1925 on a charge of murder in the Sessions courts was 1,286 and the number of persons convicted was 256, of whom 246 were males. References in the case of 106 persons sentenced to death were disposed of by the High Court during the year under section 374, Criminal Procedure Code. In the case of 49 persons the conviction was upheld and the sentence confirmed. The sentence was altered in the case of 28 persons, and 27 persons were acquitted. The total number of persons

* Of these 148 cases, 91 were reported by District Magistrates and sessions Judges, and 57 were taken up by the High Court.

actually to be executed was 50, that is, less than 4 per cent of those actually charged with murder in the Sessions courts.

Jury system

73. It is reported that the jury system worked satisfactorily on the whole. Of the 1,415 persons tried by jury, the verdict was approved in the case of 1,382 persons. In the case of 20 persons, as the Judge considered the verdict perverse, a reference was made to the High Court; in these cases and cases left over from 1924 the verdict of the jury was upheld in the case of 31 persons and in the case of 5 the verdict was reversed.

Assessors

74. Two thousand two hundred and four persons were tried with the aid of assessors; in the case of 1,122 persons the Judges agreed with all the assessors, in the case of 660 persons they differed from one or more of them and in the case of 422 they differed from all the assessors.

Juveniles

75. During the year, 1,449 boys and 259 girls were convicted. Of these juveniles, 232 were discharged after admonition and 54 were delivered to their parents or guardians. The number of juvenile offenders was particularly large in Salem, South Arcot, Coimbatore and Madras.

Criminal Procedure Code

76. Of the 98,953 cases under the Indian Penal Code filed in Magistrates' courts, 13,079 or 13·22 per cent were rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code. The majority of the disposals under this section related to cases of hurt, criminal force and assault, theft, criminal trespass and criminal intimidation, insult and annoyance. Of the persons actually tried for hurt, criminal force and assault, and criminal intimidation, insult and annoyance, more than 80 per cent were either acquitted or discharged. With regard to amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure, the District Magistrates and Sessions Judges reported that it was only in maintenance cases that accused persons took advantage of their right to give evidence on their own behalf.

Finance

77. The total receipts of Civil and Criminal courts in the Presidency in 1925 amounted to Rs. 1,56,34,425 and the charges to Rs. 96,96,644 leaving a surplus of Rs. 59,37,781.

PRISONS (1925)

[*Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prisons*]

Accommodation

78. During the year there were in the Presidency 10 central jails, 4 district jails, 2 special jails and 316 subsidiary jails. The two Government certified schools for offenders of tender years, the Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput, and the Junior Certified School, Rānipet, were transferred to the control of the Jail Department from the 1st August 1925. On 31st December 1925 there was accommodation in central and district jails, and the Civil Jail, Madras, for 20,505 prisoners; the figure for 1924 was 20,477. There was temporary overcrowding in a few jails, but arrangements were made to accommodate prisoners in tents and workshops.

Prisoners of all classes

79. On 1st January 1925 there were 20,311 prisoners of all classes in confinement; during the year, 90,099 were received and 91,012 discharged. 19,398 prisoners were in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average number was 19,577 as compared with 20,966 in 1924.

Convicts

At the beginning of the year there were 17,040 male and 242 female convicts. 22,720 males and 872 females were received by direct committal as compared with 21,977 males and 895 females in the previous year. 23,903 convicts were received by transfer. Of those discharged during the year, 2,697 were released on appeal; 16,126 on expiry of sentence; 5,311 under the Remission rules; 273 by the order of Government; 36 were transported to the Andamans; 15 were transferred to the Mental Hospital, Madras; 3 escaped and remained uncaptured; 58 were executed; and 218 died.

At the end of the year, 16,648 convicts were in custody. The daily average convict population was 16,645·97 as against 18,105·79 in the previous year.

Undertrial prisoners

There were 1,978 undertrial prisoners confined at the beginning of the year and 38,043 were received during the year. The daily average rose from 2,095 to 2,132. Of the number confined, 42 per cent

were convicted and 58 per cent acquitted and released. There were 23 escapes and 16 deaths.

The average period of detention rose from 27 days to 34 days in the case of prisoners awaiting trial before Sessions courts, but in the case of prisoners awaiting trial before Magistrates it fell from 17·35 to 16·75 days.

Civil prisoners

At the beginning of the year, 1,051 civil prisoners, including 208 State prisoners, were in custody; 4,561 were admitted during the year, 4,618 were discharged; 102 were transferred and 8 died. The daily average population increased from 758·91 to 799·02.

State prisoners

The number of State prisoners in custody on the 1st January 1925 was 208, and 16 were admitted during the year. Of the latter, 6 were concerned in the Mappilla rebellion, 4 in the fituri disturbance and 6 were received on transfer from the Bengal jails. The 4 fituri prisoners were detained only for a few days. One State prisoner implicated in the Rumpa disturbance and 5 Māppilla State prisoners were discharged from jails to remain under police surveillance. At the end of the year, 212 State prisoners were in confinement.

Star class

The system of classifying selected prisoners as star class prisoners continued to work satisfactorily. The star class prisoners are carefully selected, being the best of the casual class, and segregated as far as possible from the ordinary prisoners. They are provided with special quarters and enjoy certain privileges such as recreation after lock up. This system of classification is sound and undoubtedly protects the better class of prisoners from contaminating influences.

Special division

There were no special division prisoners throughout the year.

Habituals

The total number of habituals dealt with was 6,681, forming 20·69 of the convict population. All confirmed criminals of the recidivist class are confined in the special habitual jails at Salem and Vizagapatam. The conduct of habituals was on the whole satisfactory.

Religion of convicts

Of the 23,592 convicts admitted during the year, 86·44 per cent were Hindus, 9·31 Muhammadans, 4·20 Christians and ·05 Buddhists and Jains. The

percentage of Christians showed an increase over the figure for the previous year.

Juveniles

Thirty-seven convicts under sixteen years of age were admitted as compared with 45 in the previous year; but the number of youthful offenders (under the age of 15) increased from 7 to 12. Of the latter 7 were transferred to the Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput, and 5 were discharged from jails.

Borstal School

There were 497 inmates in the Tanjore Borstal School at the beginning of the year, of whom 439 were between 15 and 21 years of age and 58 between 21 and 23 years. Two hundred and thirty-two were received during the year, 257 released, 12 transferred to other jails as they were found unfit subjects for Borstal treatment, 10 were transferred for other reasons, 2 escaped, 1 died and 447 remained at the end of the year. The instruction imparted to the inmates at Tanjore was the same as in the previous year, viz., elementary education, religious and moral instruction, physical training, technical education and agricultural instruction.

During the year under report, 25 adolescents were released on probation for service under private employers, the conditional release having been sanctioned by Government.

District Jail, Pālamcōttah

Owing to insufficiency of accommodation in the Borstal School, Tanjore, a large number of Māppilla adolescents were concentrated at the District Jail, Pālamcōttah, where they were given a modified course of Borstal treatment.

Escapes

80. There were 17 escapes during the year as compared with 16 in the previous year. Of the 17 escapes, 12 were from outside and 5 from inside the jails. During the year 16 convicts were recaptured including 2 who had escaped in previous years.

Offences

81. The number of jail offences dealt with by superintendents was 2,980 as against 3,432 in the previous year; 9 offences were dealt with by criminal courts as compared with 13 in the previous year. The number of punishments decreased from 3,434 in the previous year to 2,983, and the percentage of punishments to average strength fell from 18·97 to 17·92. Corporal punishment was

inflicted on 15 prisoners during the year. This form of punishment is given to offenders as a last resort. There were disturbances in Trichinopoly, Pālamcōttah and Cuddalore jails during the year brought about by unruly Māppilla prisoners; and the prisoners who took an active part in these disturbances were dealt with under the rules.

Education

82. Elementary education was imparted to all prisoners under 30 years of age, including the female convicts in the central jails at Rajahmundry and Vellore; technical education was also arranged for some of the prisoners. The jail schools were regularly visited by inspecting officers of the Educational Department. Special measures taken for the instruction and recreation of prisoners included lectures on religious and moral subjects delivered by honorary lecturers appointed for the purpose, lectures on health and sanitation by the medical staff attached to the jails, magic lantern lectures and facilities given for reading and study. Each jail is provided with a library, and the "Jail Chronicle" now known as the "Howard Journal" was published weekly and circulated to jails.

Teams were trained in the jails during the latter part of the year to take part in the All-India St. John's Ambulance Competition, at which the convict team from the Central Jail, Cannanore, and two teams from the Reformatory School were among the prize winners.

Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society

83. The Central Committee of the Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society did good work during the year in assisting discharged prisoners and in finding them employment. During the year 351 discharged prisoners were assisted and 625 probation officers were appointed. Of the discharged prisoners assisted, 164 were assisted by the Central Committee and 187 by district committees. In addition, the Central Committee, Madras, gave food and shelter to 374 members of various Māppilla families, who were travelling to join relatives in the Andamans.

Remission

84. The number of convicts released under the Remission rules increased from 4,852 to 5,311. Special remission for continuous good conduct for

one year was awarded to 8,181 prisoners as against 9,426 in 1924. Extra remission for work turned out over and above the prescribed task was earned by 1,236 convicts.

Advisory boards

85. Under the scheme of conditional release of convicts on the recommendation of the advisory boards, 349 cases were placed before the boards for consideration, of which 219 were rejected and 130 recommended to Government. One hundred and nine prisoners were ordered to be released during the year. Eight convicts whose cases were pending orders of Government on 31st December 1924 were also released during the year.

Vital statistics and sanitation

86. Statistics relating to health were satisfactory. The number of prisoners admitted into hospital decreased, and the average daily number of sick was 289 as compared with 309 in 1924. There was a slight increase in the death rate per mille of average strength. Two sporadic cases of cholera, both fatal, occurred in the sub-jails at Tiruppattūr and Sāttūr in the Rāmnād district, where the disease was prevalent in epidemic form. There were 45 deaths from dysentery, of which 39 deaths occurred in Alipuram Jail where arrangements were subsequently made for a new protected water-supply. Several deaths were due to pulmonary tuberculosis, and tubercular diseases were widespread in all the jails.

The majority of jails get their water-supply from wells, all of which are protected and periodically cleaned and hankinized; drinking water is sterilized by chlorination, and field tests are systematically carried out.

Visits

87. There was a decrease in the number of visits paid by official and non-official visitors. The delegates of the second All-India Jail Conference visited the jails at Bellary, Madras, Vellore, Trichinopoly, Salem, Coimbatore and the Borstal School, Tanjore.

Finance

88. Excluding the outlay by the Public Works Department on jail buildings, the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 29,28,467-8-4 against Rs. 30,53,884-7-5 in 1924. There were reductions in dietary charges and in the cost of clothing and

bedding supplied to prisoners. Special attention was being paid to manufactures which considerably increased during the year.

The total earnings amounted to Rs. 8,89,325-13-0 against Rs. 6,16,436-12-0 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the supply of khaki drill to the Police Department, to the value of Rs. 3,28,500-15-8 as compared with Rs. 1,41,348-11-9 in the previous year. The Stationery and Forest Departments also ordered larger supplies than in the previous year.

The difference between the total receipts and earnings was Rs. 4,23,172 as against Rs. 1,25,304 in 1924.

CIVIL JUSTICE (1925)

[*Statistics of Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Civil Justice*]

General

89. On the 31st December 1925, there were, in the Madras Presidency, the following permanent Civil courts:—

The High Court, The Presidency Court of Small Causes, The City Civil Court, 28 District courts (including 3 for Agency tracts), 44 Subordinate Judges' courts (including 7 for Agency tracts and 1 Revenue Officer exercising the powers of a Subordinate Judge), 2 Special Small Cause courts, 179 District Munsifs' courts (including 22 for the Agency tracts and 5 Revenue officers exercising the powers of District Munsifs) and 127 Revenue courts.

There were in addition 7 temporary Subordinate Judges' courts and 3 temporary District Munsifs' courts. In addition to these temporary courts there were 7 temporary Sub-Judges and 10 temporary District Munsifs attached to permanent courts under the Amended Civil Courts Act.

Litigation

Number of suits

90. The total number of suits instituted during 1925 in the courts of the Presidency, including Village and Panchayat courts, was 600,682 against 559,665 in 1924 and 551,370 in 1923. For the Presidency as a whole one suit was instituted for every 70 persons of the population as compared

with one for every 76 persons in 1924. Malabar, North and South, which form one Revenue district, was the most litigious area, the figures showing an average of one suit for every 34 persons. Apart from the Agency tracts, Bellary was the least litigious district, with only one suit for every 190 persons. The largest number of suits filed in any one district was 91,899 in Malabar (North and South). Bellary contributed the smallest number of suits (4,475). The following table gives some details of the nature of the suits instituted in the Presidency:—

	1924.	1925.
Suits for money or movable property	489,544	525,555
Suits for immovable property, other than mortgage suits ...	18,986	20,189
Mortgage suits	22,046	22,429
Suits for specific relief	4,585	4,358
Suits in Revenue courts ...	23,103	26,598

Value of suits

There was a considerable increase in the value of suits instituted in courts other than Village, Panchayat and Revenue courts and unpaid tribunals. The total value in 1924 was Rs. 812·22 lakhs and Rs. 1,107 lakhs in 1925. The average value of a suit in 1925 was Rs. 364 as against Rs. 271 in 1924 and Rs. 331 in 1923.

Original Jurisdiction

Village Munsifs' courts

91. The total number of suits instituted in Village Munsifs' courts was 89,731 as against 93,108 in 1924 and 88,106 in 1923.

Village Panchayat courts

The total number of suits instituted in Panchayat courts was 179,922 as against 144,021 in 1924. It is satisfactory to note that the number of suits instituted in these courts continued to increase, while there was a small but appreciable decrease in the number of suits filed in higher tribunals which were triable in the villages. The increase in the number of suits instituted is most striking in Tinnevelly, South Kanara and Madura. The total number of suits transferred by District Munsifs to Village Panchayat courts decreased from 1,782 to 1,780 in spite of the instructions of the High Court on the subject.

Revenue courts

The number of suits filed in the Revenue courts, other than in the Agency tracts, rose from 22,886 to 26,333. The most marked increase was in Trichinopoly where 2,589 suits were filed as against 1,261 in the previous year. Disposals increased and the number of pending suits also rose. Increase in the number of pending suits was chiefly noticeable in Trichinopoly, Kistna and Nellore. The average duration of uncontested suits in Revenue courts was 128 days and of contested suits 204 days as compared with 146 days and 336 days, respectively, in the previous year. The percentage of appeals preferred against the decisions of the Revenue courts to the appealable decrees passed by them fell from 10·49 in 1924 to 9·80 in 1925, the percentage being least in the Trichinopoly district where 844 appealable decrees were passed and only 6 appeals were preferred.

Agency courts

The following table shows the disposal of business in the Agency courts :—

Number of suits instituted.		Number disposed of in 1925.	Pending at end of year.		Average duration of contested suits.		Average duration of uncontested suits.	
1924	1925		1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
1,561	1,685	1,831	543	462	189	202	87	79

District Munsifs' courts

In the District Munsifs' courts, other than in the Agency tracts, 111,429 ordinary suits were instituted as against 106,545 suits in 1924. The increase in the number of original suits in Salem and Coimbatore was attributed partly to the decrease in the number of District Munsifs exercising extended small cause powers. There was a marked decrease in Gōdāvari and Rāmnād districts and the decrease in these districts was attributed to the prevalence of plague and the fall in the price of cotton which, it is said, adversely affected the resources available with the ryots for litigation. The number of suits disposed of was more than in the previous year, but the increase in disposals did not keep pace with the increase in the number of suits instituted, so that as many as 49,814 suits

were pending at the end of the year. The total number of suits pending for over a year, however, has fallen and the figure stood at 8,223 at the end of 1925. 648 suits instituted in the years 1912 to 1922 inclusive were pending at the end of the year.

As regards small cause suits there was a slight rise in the number instituted, while there was a decrease in the number disposed of. The average duration of contested ordinary suits was 309 days as compared with 332 days in 1924. As usual the highest duration was found in Additional courts, Tinnevelly Additional Court and Tiruvallūr Additional Court heading the list with averages of 853 and 743 days, respectively. The percentage of appeals to appealable decrees passed by District Munsifs' courts was 10·57 as against 15·51 in the previous year; of the decrees appealed against, 58·23 per cent of the number decided were confirmed.

Special Small Cause courts

In the Special Small Cause courts 11,416 small cause suits were filed during the year as against 11,489 in the previous year. 12,058 suits were disposed of, leaving 1,411 suits pending at the end of the year against 1,957 at the end of 1924. The average duration of contested and uncontested small cause suits showed some improvement.

Subordinate Judges' courts

The number of ordinary suits instituted in Subordinate Judges' courts in the year was 2,804 as against 2,977 in 1924. In spite of the fact that fewer suits were instituted than in 1924, there was a marked decrease in disposals from 3,759 to 3,354 and there were as many as 3,528 suits pending at the end of the year including 401 suits instituted in the years 1908 to 1922 inclusive. With regard to the small cause suits, the number of suits instituted increased from 27,894 to 28,246, but the disposals decreased and there was an increase in the number of suits pending at the end of the year. The average duration of contested original suits in Subordinate Judges' courts was 581 days as against 636 days in 1924. The highest duration was shown by Anantapur Sub-Court where for 12 suits the average was 1,272 days.

District courts

In the District courts, excluding the courts of the Agency tracts, 465 ordinary suits were filed. This figure is less than the figure for the previous

year; the number of suits disposed of and the number of suits pending at the end of the year also decreased. The average number of days which District Judges were able to devote to civil work was 101; most of this time was occupied in civil appellate miscellaneous work and the total number of ordinary suits disposed of by all the District Judges after trial was only 271.

City Civil Court and Presidency Court of Small Causes

In the Madras City Civil Court 762 suits were instituted and the Judge disposed of 849 suits, of which 478 were contested. In the Presidency Court of Small Causes the number of suits instituted was 18,018 as against 18,203 in the previous year.

The High Court

In the High Court of Judicature, 907 suits were filed as compared with 893 suits in the previous year, the increase being chiefly noticeable under the heads "mortgage suits" and "matrimonial suits." The number of suits disposed of was greater than in 1924 (870 to 1,215). The arrears decreased, but the average duration of contested suits which was 609 days in 1924 rose to 662 days in 1925.

Insolvency petitions

92. The number of insolvency petitions presented both in the High Court and in mufassal courts again showed an increase. Disposals increased both in the mufassal, where the numbers were 6,117 in 1925 as against 5,235 in 1924, and also in the High Court where 77 petitions were disposed of in 1925 as compared with 62 in 1924.

Appellate courts

93. The number of regular appeals filed in the Agency tracts rose from 77 in 1924 to 119 in the year under report. The number of appeals disposed of was 92 and 55 were pending at the end of the year. The average duration of appeals in these courts was 155 days and the percentage of decrees confirmed to decrees against which appeals were made was 60·87 as against 42·11 in 1924.

District and Subordinate Judges' courts

In the District and Subordinate Judges' courts the number of appeals filed was 13,660 as against 14,012 in 1924. The number of regular appeals disposed of by Subordinate Judges was 5,973; the arrears rose from 3,927 to 5,034 and the number of appeals pending at the end of the year for more than six months also rose from 2,030 to 3,439. The

average duration of appeals disposed of was 275 days in the case of uncontested appeals and 363 days in the case of contested appeals, the average duration being highest in the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Vizagapatam where 54 appeals were disposed of after contest with an average duration of 1,028 days. 5,934 regular appeals were disposed of by the District Judges as against 5,689 in 1924, and there was a decrease in the arrears from 10,168 to 9,175. The average duration of contested appeals was 607 days, the average being very high in the District Court of Tinnevelly, where the average was 1,072 days for 1,746 appeals.

The following table shows the disposal of appeals by the High Court:— High Court

—	Number filed during		Number disposed of during		Number pending at the end of		Average duration in days.	
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
From original decrees of mufassal courts	469	472	385	388	1,251	1,335	639	675
From orders of mufassal courts ...	480	567	384	572	717	712		
From decrees passed on the Original Side of the High Court	91	132	101	133	142	141		
From decrees of the City Civil Court ...	41	66	50	80	172	158		
Letters Patent appeals (other than Original Side appeals)	181	299	79	177	128	250		
Appeals against appellate decrees...	1,462	1,908	1,782	1,575	3,119	3,452	727	797
Appeals against appellate orders ...	145	172	102	131	234	275		

The increase in the number of Letters Patent appeals filed is largely explained by the experiment of having City Civil Court appeals and second appeals tried by a single judge. The percentage of appeals dismissed was as follows:—

First appeals from District courts	...	64·43
Do. Subordinate Judges' courts	... ...	71·43
Do. City Civil Court	...	73·75
Do. Original Side	... ...	74·44
Second appeals	... ...	57·50 *
Letters Patent appeals	... ...	87·01

(* 80·30 if dismissals under Order 41, rule 11, are included.)

Appeals to the Privy Council

At the beginning of the year there were 13 applications for leave to appeal to the Privy Council pending before the High Court. Forty-three new applications were received during the year. Of the total number of applications for leave to appeal, 14 were rejected, leave was granted on 28 applications and 14 were pending at the close of the year. In the Privy Council in England, 32 appeals were pending from the previous year and 8 were admitted during the year. Of the 40 appeals for disposal, 6 were dismissed with costs by the Privy Council, 5 were allowed and 29 were pending.

Reference and revision

94. The number of revision petitions filed in the High Court was 1,407, of which 488 were for the revision of decisions in small cause suits. The number of petitions disposed of was 1,225 as against 1,009 in 1924 and the arrears rose from 1,496 to 1,667. The number of cases referred by lower courts, the Commissioner of Income-tax and the Board of Revenue to the High Court was 26. Of the 40 cases for disposal, including 14 cases which were pending at the end of 1924, 19 cases were disposed of, 11 under the Income-tax Act, 7 under the Indian Divorce Act and 1 under the Guardian and Wards Act.

Execution applications

95. The following table illustrates the disposal of applications for execution :—

Number received in		Number disposed of in		Number pending at the end of		Number of those disposed of in which satisfaction was obtained in full.		Number of those disposed of in which satisfaction was obtained in part		Total amount realized in		Number of debtors imprisoned in	
1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
In all mufassal courts except Village and Panchayat courts.													
						PER CENT	PER CENT	PER CENT	PER CENT	Rs.	Rs.		
353,400	360,225	352,652	360,940	56,065	58,845	15·68	16·06	8·49	8·89	1,68,25,105	1,73,73,120	3,732	3,658
In the City Civil Court, Presidency Court of Small Causes and the High Court.													
16,918	16,854	17,806	16,773	2,223	2,312	10·30	10·61	6·17	6·11	2,66,130	2,17,922	97	143

Processes

96. In the mufassal courts, other than Village and Panchayat courts, 2,860,104 processes were executed, of which 392,285 were executed by amins and the remainder by peons. The receipts from the execution of processes were Rs. 21,68,978 and the charges Rs. 19,64,280, leaving a surplus of Rs. 2,04,698. The experiment of supplying process-servers with apparatus for taking thumb impressions of illiterate persons in token of the receipt of processes had been introduced in all the districts and it is reported that it worked satisfactorily.

Legal practitioners

97. At the end of the year there were on the rolls of the High Court 252 advocates, 2,250 vakils and 71 attorneys, and in the mufassal courts there were 3,487 first-grade pleaders and 922 second-grade pleaders. Six attorneys, 7 advocates, 114 vakils and 489 first-grade pleaders were admitted in the course of the year. A concession was granted to second-grade pleaders to practise in any District Munsif's or Subordinate Judge's court in one district and also to appear in small causes in the District Court ; and in criminal cases they may plead in any court except the Sessions Court. Second-grade pleaders were also permitted to appear for the First-grade Pleadership examination which it is proposed to discontinue with effect from 1st July 1928. All these changes tend towards the development of a unified Bar.

REGISTRATION AND COMPANIES

[*Report on the administration of the Registration Department for the year 1925; Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, the Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912, and the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, for the year 1925-26; Statistical Abstract for British India —Registration and Joint Stock Companies*]

Registration (1925)

Administrative changes

98. The registration district of Kistna was divided with effect from 1st June 1925 into Kistna and West Gōdāvari districts; the headquarters of the former continued at Masulipatam, while the headquarters of the latter were established at Nidadavōle temporarily. The number of district charges accordingly rose from 29 to 30, and of district registrars from 32 to 33. The post of Inspector of Registration Offices was revived with effect from 1st March 1925.

Seven new sub-registry offices were opened during the year; sanction was granted for the continuance of two temporary offices. The number of sub-offices rose from 533 to 540, and the number of sub-registrars from 589 to 596. Readjustments of jurisdiction were effected in eleven districts to promote the convenience of the public.

Registrations

Registrations increased from 1,383,039 in 1924 to 1,397,479 in 1925. The rise was mainly due to the absence of epidemics in certain districts and the continued activity of the cotton and groundnut markets.

The aggregate value of registered documents was over Rs. 62 crores as compared with Rs. 61 crores in the previous year. The number of documents relating to co-operative societies increased from 37,829 to 39,525.

Searches

Applications for encumbrance certificates increased from 82,069 to 85,341; there is an increasing demand for encumbrance certificates for co-operative societies and for production in connexion with court sales. There were 99,356 applications for copies as compared with 119,147 in the previous year.

Finance

Owing to the increase in registrations, the income from fees rose from Rs. 30·26 lakhs to Rs. 30·81 lakhs. The total income, after deducting

expenditure on refunds, was Rs. 38·48 lakhs. The total expenditure was Rs. 26·43 lakhs as compared with an expenditure of Rs. 25·58 lakhs in the year 1924.

Registered companies (1925-26)

99. At the beginning of the year, 770 companies were working. Sixty companies were registered during the year, one company was restored to the register and 72 companies were either wound up or struck off the register. Of the 759 companies working at the close of the year, 679 had share capital and 80 had no share capital. There were more banking and loan companies than trading and industrial companies. The fall in the number of working companies was ascribed mainly to the stringency of the money market, the development of the co-operative movement, and the effects of the floods in the southern and western districts.

The Indian Companies Act

New companies

The aggregate capital of the new companies registered was Rs. 1·29 crores as against Rs. 1·83 crores in the year 1924–25. Nearly 70 per cent of the new companies registered had an authorized capital of only one lakh each or less.

The largest flotation during the year was The Mahalakshmi Textile Mills, Limited, registered at Madura with an authorized capital of Rs. 12 lakhs. This is a cotton spinning and weaving mill started by Nattukkōttai Chettis in the Tinnevelly district. Other important flotations were—Tamil Nadu, Limited, registered for the purpose of purchasing and continuing the *Tamil Nādu* newspaper and the Tamil Nādu press; Oakes & Co., Limited, formed at Madras in January 1926 out of the assets of the company with the same name which was wound up in December 1925.

Private companies

Fifteen private companies were registered and 29 companies ceased to exist. The number of private companies at the end of the year was 144.

Capital

The aggregate paid-up capital of registered companies was Rs. 12·33 crores. Fifteen companies increased their authorized capital; one company reduced its authorized capital.

Companies that ceased to exist

The number of companies that ceased to exist was unusually large, especially mills and trading concerns. Twenty-four companies went into

voluntary liquidation, four went into liquidation by an order of a court, and forty-four companies were struck off the register.

The Āndhra Khadder Bank, Limited, could not successfully carry on Khadder business, and was wound up at the instance of the All-India Khadder Board.

Auditors — At the end of the year there were 55 certificated auditors, of whom 35 possessed unrestricted certificates, and 20 restricted certificates. Two firms were recognized as firms qualified to act as auditors.

Finance — The receipts were Rs. 23,587 ; the expenditure rose from Rs. 29,509 to Rs. 31,233 owing to the grant of leave allowances and increments of salaries.

Provident insurance societies — The number of provident insurance societies increased from 11 to 13 on account of the registration of two new societies.

Life assurance companies — The number of life assurance companies rose from seven to eight, on account of the registration of the Āndhra Insurance Company, Limited, the first life assurance company registered since the Act came into force in the year 1912.

Notaries Public (1925-26)

100. The constitution of the new Registrar's office for West Gōdāvari increased the number of registering officers who exercised the functions of a Notary Public from 199 to 200. There was an increase in the total number of documents dealt with, which was attributed to the stringency of the money market, the activities of the new branches of the Imperial Bank of India, and the loss sustained by some wholesale cloth merchants in the registration district of Erode. There were 257 transactions, and the aggregate value of the transactions was Rs. 4,14,266.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(1ST JULY 1925 TO 30TH JUNE 1926)

[*Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act (II of 1912) for the year 1925-26; Statistical Abstract for British India—Co-operative Societies*]

General

101. The re-organization scheme for the upper controlling staff came into full effect during the year, there being 24 Assistant Registrars' sections, in addition to the special Agency section. In April 1926 the appointment of a Joint Registrar was sanctioned for one year to deal with non-credit work generally, subject to the control of the Registrar.

Government also sanctioned the retention, for a period of two years from 1st April 1926, of the special staff which was sanctioned last year for reclamation work in the districts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly. Excluding the posts of Registrar and Joint Registrar, the entire staff including menials was 528 at the end of the year. One hundred and twenty-one Honorary Assistant Registrars were appointed during the year under review, making a total of 207.

The total cost of working the Co-operative Societies Act during the year was Rs. 6·87 lakhs. This represents ·61 per cent of the working capital, which shows a slight decrease when compared with last year's figure of ·67 per cent.

Expansion

There was fair progress in the formation of new societies, the development being most marked in the districts of Ganjām, Chingleput, Tanjore, South Kanara and Trichinopoly. The expansion of existing societies showed only moderate progress and a great deal more consolidation work is required to improve the working of the older societies. Salem, Kurnool, Chittoor and Cuddapah districts have shown very little progress in expansion and consolidation. The policy of weeding out bad societies was continued during the year.

Number of societies

There were 11,141 societies of all classes at the close of the previous year, and during the year 877 societies were registered; the registration of 45 societies was cancelled, leaving 11,973 societies at the end of the year under review. Of the societies

registered during the year, 736 are agricultural societies, 99 are non-agricultural societies, 33 local supervising unions and 9 are district federations.

Membership

Excluding the local supervising unions and the district federations, the number of members on 30th June 1926 was 748,783 which is an average of 64·5 members per society compared with 64 in the previous year. The total number of members on 30th June 1926 bears a percentage of 1·75 to the population of the Presidency, which is a slight increase on last year's figure of 1·63. Members may be classified as follows :—

Agriculturists	442,054
Non-agriculturists	227,440
Mixed	79,289

Working capital of societies

The working capital of all societies on the last day of the year was Rs. 1,132·80 lakhs as compared with Rs. 986·57 lakhs in the previous year. The paid-up share capital of all societies rose from Rs. 135·43 lakhs to Rs. 153·32 lakhs, deposits by individuals and institutions from Rs. 350·77 lakhs to Rs. 437·47 lakhs, and the reserve fund increased from Rs. 46·85 lakhs to Rs. 56·50 lakhs. Without taking into account the investments of one society in another, the total working capital employed in the movement amounted to Rs. 624·35 lakhs at the end of the year according to the following table:—

	LAKHS. RS.
Paid-up share capital of individuals	121·01
Deposits of individuals	437·47
Reserve Fund	48·18
Loans from Government	17·69
Total ...	624·35

There is a clear increase of Rs. 115·42 lakhs over the corresponding figure of the previous year and this indicates the continued confidence of the public in the co-operative movement.

Collection

There has been a general deterioration in the matter of recoveries by all classes of societies both

under principal and interest, though in non-agricultural societies the position has slightly improved except in the case of arrear interest. The percentage of balance to demand under principal rose by nearly 3 per cent in the case of repayments by primary societies to central banks. Though this may be due to some extent to the continuance of the unfavourable season in certain parts of the Presidency, the increase in the ratio of balance to demand must be put down to the failure of the central banks, unions and federations to exert sufficient effort in the collection of their dues.

Central banks

The number of central banks, including the Provincial Bank, remained at 32 during the year. There is no likelihood of the number increasing in the near future as the organization of central banks is complete and adequate. The deposits by local boards, municipalities and individuals showed an increase of 50 per cent over the figures for the preceding year ; the continued growth of the deposits has rendered necessary increased watchfulness in order to prevent the accumulation of large, idle balances, and further organization is necessary in the districts in order to utilize fully these constantly growing surpluses.

Supervising unions and federations

During the year, 33 local supervising unions were registered, bringing the total to 346 at the end of the year. To these unions were affiliated 9,617 primary societies with a membership of 613,345 as against 8,704 with 539,779 members at the end of last year. Nine new federations were registered during the year, bringing the total to 19. Ganjām, Tanjore and Tinnevelly are the only districts without district federations. The federations of Chingleput and South Kanara utilized the educational subsidies granted by Government last year by holding training classes which were of great value to those who attended them. Government have been requested to extend the subsidies to other district federations.

Provincial Union

The Provincial Union also held training classes during the year, as a result of which 33 students were granted certificates of competency. Similar classes are being held during the current year

PRO-TECTION

also, and, it is hoped, with equally satisfactory results.

Progress

There has been a distinct improvement in the working of the trading societies, and some success has attended the operations of the societies formed to advance loans against crops in godowns. This accommodation enables the ryots to hold up their produce for a more favourable market and protects them from forced sales at uneconomic prices. These activities, if developed, will provide an outlet for the utilization of all surplus funds. The development of labour societies continued, and 10 additional societies were registered during the year, bringing the total number to 48. In the course of the year the societies secured work contracts for Rs. 4·38 lakhs, and the work actually executed was valued at Rs. 3·36 lakhs, the corresponding figures for last year being Rs. 2·81 lakhs and Rs. 2·44 lakhs.

The work of the special societies formed last year for land reclamation work in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts showed tangible results. Out of 2,148 acres of sanded area, 315 acres of land have been completely reclaimed. Owing to the high cost of clearing the areas of deep sand and the difficulty of obtaining additional plant, modified proposals involving alterations in the channel system have been made ; pending their settlement the work has been delayed in certain places.

Two more land mortgage banks were formed during the year. The special object of these banks is the provision of long-term loans for the redemption of lands from mortgage, land improvement work, etc., and it is also hoped by these means to attract more long-term deposits. An outstanding feature of the year was the registration of the Conjeeveram Co-operative Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, for the residents of the town, this being the first society of its kind in the Presidency.

There were two audit unions at work at the beginning of the year and six new unions were added during the year. The proposal to levy audit fees from societies which do not arrange for their audit through unions, or otherwise, is still under consideration.

102. A comparative statement of the progress in the working of the 31 district central banks and the Madras Central Urban Bank, Limited, is shown below :—

	1924-25. LAKHS. RS.	1925-26. LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	455	532
Deposits	401·4	472
Paid-up share capital	42·87	46·16
Reserve fund...	13·29	16·39

From this it will be seen that the expansion noticed in former years as regards (1) deposits and borrowings, (2) total working capital and (3) reserve fund has been steadily maintained during the year.

The paid-up share capital of Rs. 40·23 lakhs in the district central banks is made up of Rs. 13·66 lakhs and Rs. 26·57 lakhs, contributed by individuals and societies respectively. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 13·33 lakhs and Rs. 23·59 lakhs. The owned capital (i.e., share capital held by individuals and societies plus reserve fund) rose from Rs. 53·86 lakhs to Rs. 60·18 lakhs, which represents 18·26 per cent of the amount borrowed from outside the movement as compared with 20·83 per cent last year.

The overdraft accommodation placed at the disposal of the movement by the Imperial Bank of India amounted to Rs. 65 lakhs as compared with Rs. 47·11 lakhs at the end of last year, although only Rs. 4·76 lakhs was being operated on at the close of the year.

The deposits derived by the central banks from local boards and municipalities and as security deposits by local fund, abkāri, jail and forest contractors and employees of local boards constituted even a higher proportion of their working capital than during last year. At the end of 1924-25 these deposits amounted to Rs. 94·41 lakhs, while the figure rose to Rs. 132·97 lakhs by the close of the year under report.

The net divisible profit of all district central banks was Rs. 14·03 lakhs as compared with Rs. 8·01 lakhs last year. All the central banks, with the exception of four, were in a position to

pay a dividend of 9 per cent out of the net profits of the year. The percentage of balance to demand for principal varied between 4·21 per cent to 71·15 per cent. The collection of interest was satisfactory with the exception of four banks whose arrear interest balances ranged between 72 per cent and 94 per cent.

Madras Central Urban Bank

The total share capital held by central banks in the Madras Central Urban Bank at the close of the year was Rs. 5·92 lakhs as against Rs. 5·94 lakhs in the previous year. The chief features of the year's working were the expanding deposits and the declining advances to central banks with the result that outside investments have considerably increased, but the profits of the year have suffered through the bank accepting heavier deposits than it could profitably utilize. Deposits of individuals rose by nearly Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 58·60 lakhs and the deposits of local boards and municipalities increased by over Rs. 13 lakhs to Rs. 34 lakhs. Loans to the extent of Rs. 24·42 lakhs were granted during the year as against Rs. 34·01 lakhs last year, while the loans repaid to the bank amounted to Rs. 47·44 lakhs, which is an increase of Rs. 16·17 lakhs over the figure for 1924–25, the total borrowings by district central banks from the central bank being reduced from Rs. 81·60 lakhs to Rs. 60·84 lakhs. The figure of Rs. ·31 lakh, being the indebtedness of primary societies to the central bank, was reduced by a further Rs. ·05 lakh.

Agricultural societies

103. The number of agricultural societies of all classes increased by 736, last year's figure being 1,166. At the close of the year there were 10,178 agricultural societies.

Agricultural credit societies

The number of credit societies was 9,822, of which 35 were on a limited liability basis. Their position is shown below:—

	1924-25. LAKHS. RS.	1925-26. LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	358·07	398·23
Paid-up share capital	42·81	48·91
Deposits	16·23	16·71
Loans from central banks ...	274·78	303·25
Loans from Government ...	4·82	6·14

Progress during the year has been satisfactory, but the fall in members' deposits and the increase in non-members' deposits which were commented upon last year have become still more accentuated. This is partly due to the debentures floated during the year by the land mortgage banks being held almost entirely by non-members.

The total divisible profit earned by the societies during the year was Rs. 6,67,688, the corresponding figure for last year being Rs. 5,72,797. The total loss not yet recouped by the societies at the end of the year was Rs. 8,23,745 compared with Rs. 7,01,438 last year. Of the 9,806 societies actually working during the year, 4,656 societies worked at a loss after excluding overdue interest from the profit. Of these only 1,205, as compared with 1,302 in the previous year, worked at a real loss which amounted to Rs. 26,580 (excluding overdue interest), of which sum Rs. 5,543 represents the loss incurred by 422 societies which started work during the year. The percentage of balance to demand continued to rise and was 46·15 per cent in the year under report. The percentage of arrear to demand under arrear and current interest also increased when compared with last year, the figures being 53·87 per cent and 38·23 per cent, respectively, compared with 49·48 per cent and 35·82 per cent last year. This is largely due to the slackness of the unions in their efforts to effect recoveries. The fact that the Ottappidāram Union has further reduced the arrears under principal and interest from 0·63 and 0·69 to 0·29 and 0·34 per cent, respectively, is clearly indicative of what can be done.

Societies for purchase and sale

The number of agricultural societies for purchase or for purchase and sale rose from 78 to 98 during the year. A net divisible profit of Rs. 10,536 was earned during the year by 52 societies and a net loss of Rs. 58,561 was sustained by 42 societies (excluding 4 societies which had not started by the end of the year), the corresponding figures for last year being Rs. 12,790 and Rs. 48,273. Tanjore is responsible for 59 per cent of this loss.

Societies for production and sale

One more agricultural society for production and sale was registered during the year, bringing the total number to 5. Of these, 4 worked at a total

profit of Rs. 4,332 and the remaining society established itself on a much sounder basis.

Other agricultural societies

An interesting departure during the year was the registration of three cattle insurance societies, though the work did not proceed beyond the admission of members and the collection of share capital. The number of agricultural societies for other purposes rose from 226 to 250 during the year.

Non-agricultural societies

Credit societies

104. The total number of societies of this class rose from 1,039 at the beginning of the year to 1,073 at the end of the year, 845 of these being on a limited liability basis, and 228 on an unlimited liability basis. There was a marked improvement in the transactions of the societies and their membership. Their position is set out below:—

	1924-25.	1925-26.
Number of members ...	151,121	170,592
	RS.	RS.
Paid-up share capital ...	40,02,656	46,07,803
Deposits by individuals ...	73,13,467	88,11,139
Working capital	1,45,84,511	1,67,90,256
Net divisible profit for the year	5,43,093	6,21,726

The percentage of balance to demand was as follows:—

Year.	Principal.	Interest. Arrear.	Interest. Current.
1924-25	16·59	44·48	14·52
1925-26	17·52	46·24	16·52

Fifty-eight non-agricultural credit societies on a thrift basis, mainly consisting of the Ādi-Andhras, accumulated savings of Rs. 5,319. The Mount Road Firms Employees' Society accumulated Rs. 2,713 in the shape of Provident Fund. There were 114 societies in South Kanara, consisting of field labourers and fishermen, on a thrift basis. The wage earners' societies increased in number and continued to work satisfactorily. The reduction of arrears by pay disbursing officers has to a large extent reduced the arrears in these societies.

Other non-agricultural societies

The number of non-agricultural societies for purchase, purchase and sale, production, production and sale rose from 151 to 169 during the year. Of the societies registered during the year, one was

a trading union, six were urban stores, four weavers' societies, four for purchase and supply of stationery for students, two for coir workers and one was a match works and the remaining two were for production and production and sale. There were 94 building societies, 52 weaving societies and 108 co-operative stores at the end of the year.

Societies for backward classes

105. The movement has been making satisfactory progress among the depressed classes. There were 792 societies for the depressed and backward classes under the direct supervision of the Co-operative Department, an increase of seventy-eight compared with the figure for last year. The share capital amounted to Rs. 1·76 lakhs with a membership of 26,089. Members' deposits amounted to Rs. 17,175, compared with Rs. 5,155 in the previous year, and loans from central banks and non-members totalled Rs. 8 lakhs.

Depressed classes

The number of societies composed wholly or mainly of Ādi-Drāvidas or Ādi-Āndhras rose from 1,738 to 1,972 during the year. Out of the societies referred to above, 1,180 were in charge of the Labour Department with a total membership of 46,738 and a paid-up share capital of Rs. 2·48 lakhs. Members' deposits amounted to Rs. 12,132.

Kallars.

In the Madura district, the number of societies for Kallars rose from 194 to 223. During the year the membership of these societies increased to 18,160 compared with 15,207 in the previous year, and the paid-up share capital amounted to Rs. 59,172.

Criminal tribes

There was no change in the number of societies for members of certain criminal tribes and the membership and paid-up share capital decreased slightly in the year.

Scavengers and sweepers

The number of societies exclusively for scavengers and sweepers in municipal and union employ increased from 43 to 57 during the year and there was an increase of fifty per cent in the membership and the paid-up share capital. Societies in six districts made joint purchases of clothing and food stuffs and effected a saving of Rs. 2,725.

Agency tracts

There were twenty-four societies working in the Agency tracts at the close of the year,

excluding the two unregistered societies mentioned last year as working on an informal basis. The paid-up share capital increased to Rs. 29,381 and the membership to 6,338.

Reserve fund

106. The total reserve fund of all societies will amount to Rs. 56,50,114 as compared with Rupees 46,84,848 in the previous year, after making contributions to reserve according to the audit instructions on the accounts for the year. This sum is made up as follows:—

	RS.
Madras Central Urban Bank (Provincial Bank).	6,00,000
District central banks	10,38,990
Agricultural primary societies	27,00,689
Non-agricultural primary societies ...	13,10,435
Total ...	56,50,114

The reserve fund of the Madras Central Urban Bank is invested in Government paper, while the district central banks have, with one exception, invested their reserve funds in the Madras Central Urban Bank. The reserve funds of primary societies are invested in the district central banks. The total reserve of all societies has increased by 20·6 per cent during the year and their total working capital has risen by 12·2 per cent.

Super-vision

107. At the end of the year there were 346 local supervising unions to which were affiliated 9,617 primary societies out of a total number of 11,574. The proportion of the cost of administering the Co-operative Societies Act which is borne by the societies continued to increase. This year the contributions made by societies amounted to 35·65 per cent of the amount spent by Government.

Miscella-neous

108. There was a heavy increase in the number of suits filed during the year, mainly due to the fact that societies more freely resort to the village courts where the amounts are small. There was a substantial decrease in the number of arbitration cases, the large number of which was commented upon last year.

There were some criminal prosecutions during the year, but the number is small when compared with the large number of societies.

There were 215 societies under liquidation at the end of the year.

The 14th Provincial Co-operative Conference was held in April 1926 and there were a number of district conferences held. In addition several joint conferences were held in which officers of the Agricultural, Industries and Veterinary departments took part and gave practical advice and lectures which were of great help in the purchase of agricultural requirements.

LOCAL BOARDS ADMINISTRATION (1925–26)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—District and Local Boards*]

General District boards

109. The total number of district boards in the Presidency was the same as in the previous year, viz., 24. The Nilgiri District Board was the only one of which the president was not a non-official. The privilege of electing their presidents was enjoyed by 15 district boards against 11 in the previous year. The total sanctioned strength of the boards was 979. The actual strength at the close of the year including ex-officio members was 916, of whom 206 were nominated by the Government and 586 elected by the taluk boards. The district boards held in all 219 meetings during the year, one of which was adjourned for want of time.

Taluk boards

During the year one taluk board in each of the districts of Chittoor and Tanjore was divided into two, one taluk board in the Madura district was divided into three, while one taluk board in the Bellary district was abolished and two taluk boards in the Malabar district were amalgamated respectively with two others of the same district. The total number of taluk boards in the Presidency thus increased from 128 to 129. The presidents of 114 taluk boards were non-officials elected by the taluk boards concerned and of the remaining 15 taluk boards all except 2 were presided over by non-officials. The sanctioned strength of the

taluk boards decreased from 2,482 to 2,394. The actual strength at the close of the year was 2,299, of whom 707 were nominated by the Government and 1,592 elected. Elections were held during the year to fill 824 seats on the taluk boards ; at those which were contested (673), about 52 per cent of the electors voted. The taluk boards held 1,322 meetings during the year, 6 of which were adjourned for want of a quorum and 24 for other reasons.

Union boards

There were 486 union boards. Their actual strength at the close of the year was 5,347, consisting of 4,113 elected, 1,231 nominated and 3 ex-officio members.

Taxes

Under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the levy of land cess at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the annual rent value is obligatory. Additional cess up to a maximum of 3 pies was levied during the year by 21 district boards and 109 taluk boards. The profession and companies' taxes, as remarked last year, were unpopular and were collected with difficulty. The profession tax was levied by 52 taluk boards and the companies' tax by 28 taluk boards.

The education cess for the expansion of elementary education was levied during the year by 93 taluk boards. The Nilgiri District Board levied the cess in the whole of the area under its jurisdiction and the Malabar District Board in the area under the jurisdiction of the old Wynaad Taluk Board. Tolls on carriages, carts and animals were collected in all districts. House-tax was levied in all unions.

Finance—Receipts

110. The aggregate balance at the beginning of the year was Rs. 78·6 lakhs. The total receipts (both ordinary and capital) amounted to Rs. 383·5 lakhs against Rs. 334 lakhs in the previous year. The grants received from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 101·1 lakhs. Of this sum Rs. 1·9 lakhs was in aid of the general resources of the boards, Rs. 18·4 lakhs for the upkeep of trunk roads, Rs. 54·1 lakhs for education and Rs. 2·3 lakhs for the maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries. Special Government grants amounting to Rs. 12·5 lakhs for the improvement of village communications and the water-supply in rural areas were

distributed among local boards during the year. The total sum expended from this grant during the year was Rs. 8 lakhs. The unspent balance of Rs. 4·5 lakhs was re-allotted in the current year to enable the boards to complete the works already started with the aid of the grants.

111. The total expenditure (both ordinary and capital) was Rs. 374·5 lakhs against Rs. 335·3 lakhs in 1924–25 and the aggregate closing balance was Rs. 87·6 lakhs. Expenditure

The total outlay on communications amounted to Rs. 138·9 lakhs (against Rs. 119·9 lakhs in the previous year) of which Rs. 39·9 lakhs was met from Provincial grants. The length of new roads constructed during the year was 497 miles and the total length of roads maintained by the boards at the close of the year was 27,158 miles, of which 3,042 miles were trunk roads. Communications

The number of secondary and elementary schools maintained by all the boards during the year was 169 and 12,802, respectively. In addition, one Sanskrit College was maintained. The strength of the elementary schools was 700,573. There were 11,893 pupils on the rolls of the elementary department of the board secondary schools and 22,258 pupils in the secondary department. The total expenditure incurred during the year on education was Rs. 88·8 lakhs, towards which the Government contributed Rs. 54·1 lakhs, while the income from fees and other receipts amounted to Rs. 12·7 lakhs. The net amount contributed by local boards amounted to Rs. 22 lakhs. Education

The local boards maintained 108 hospitals and 521 dispensaries compared with 109 hospitals and 306 dispensaries in 1924–25. The total number of in-patients who received treatment at the hospitals and dispensaries decreased from 22,741 to 22,300, while the out-patients who attended the local fund medical institutions numbered in all 5,950,653 against 5,100,462 last year. The aggregate cost of maintaining these institutions amounted to Rs. 19 lakhs. Medical relief

Five hundred and eight vaccinators were employed by the local boards and they performed 1,249,855 successful cases of vaccination, which

works out to approximately 36 per mille of the population. The total expenditure on preventive medicine, including sanitation and water-supply, was Rs. 13·8 lakhs compared with Rs. 8 lakhs in the previous year.

Railways

112. There are railways owned by district boards in six districts in the Presidency, viz., Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntūr, Salem, Kistna and Tinnevelly, the total length of the lines being 271 miles and the total capital outlay up to the end of the year Rs. 153·5 lakhs.

Coimbatore

The gross earnings of the Podanūr-Pollāchi Railway (25 miles) were Rs. 4·9 lakhs and working expenses Rs. 2·6 lakhs. The net earnings were thus Rs. 2·3 lakhs representing a return of 13·2 per cent on the capital outlay against 12·9 per cent in the previous year.

Tanjore

The net earnings of the Tanjore District Board Railway (131 miles) decreased from Rs. 5·7 lakhs to Rs. 5·2 lakhs and represented approximately 7·6 per cent of the capital outlay compared with 8·3 per cent in 1924–25.

Salem

The net earnings of the Salem-Suramangalam Railway (3·9 miles) also decreased from Rs. 0·8 lakh to Rs. 0·7 lakh and worked out to about 13·2 per cent of the capital outlay against 15·4 per cent in the previous year.

Tinnevelly

The gross earnings of the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendur Railway (38 miles) amounted to Rs. 5·3 lakhs and the working expenses to Rs. 2·8 lakhs. The net earnings were thus Rs. 2·5 lakhs or 10·2 per cent on the capital outlay compared with 9·6 per cent last year.

Guntūr

The net earnings on the Tenali-Rēpalle Railway (21 miles) were Rs. 1·2 lakhs representing a return of 7·9 per cent on the total capital outlay against 7·8 per cent in the previous year.

East Gōdāvari

The gross earnings of the Bezwada-Masulipatam Railway (51·8 miles) amounted to Rs. 8·6 lakhs and the working expenses to Rs. 3·9 lakhs. The net return of Rs. 4·7 lakhs represented about 20·2 per cent of the total capital outlay.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL (1925-26)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

General

113. The number of municipal councils actually at work during the year continued to be 80. The total sanctioned number of seats on these councils was 1,737, of which 1,688 were occupied at the close of the year. Of the 1,688 councillors, 1,296 were elected by the rate-payers and 392 nominated by the Government. There were no European members on 45 councils. The councils held 2,171 meetings compared with 2,221 in the previous year. One hundred and seventy-eight meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum and 86 for other reasons. The average attendance of members at meetings increased slightly from 60·8 per cent to 61·8 per cent of the sanctioned strength. Of the 476 elections held during the year, 343 were contested. About 70 per cent of the electorate voted in these elections compared with 66·3 per cent in the previous year.

Finance—Receipts

114. The aggregate opening balance was Rs. 36·7 lakhs compared with Rs. 30·6 lakhs last year. Current receipts (both ordinary and capital), excluding the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 163 lakhs compared with Rs. 147·3 lakhs in 1924-25. Of the receipts, Rs. 36 lakhs were derived from taxes. The average incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 2-3-3 against the Presidency average of Rs. 2-2-0 for the previous year. Grants from provincial funds for maintenance of services amounted to Rs. 11·7 lakhs against Rs. 10·8 lakhs for 1924-25. Of this, Rs. 9·3 lakhs were paid for education, Rs. 1·7 lakhs for roads and Rs. 0·3 lakh for medical relief. Further grants from provincial funds amounting to Rs. 12·2 lakhs were paid to the councils during the year towards the cost of capital works compared with Rs. 5·4 lakhs in the previous year; of this, Rs. 11·8 lakhs were grants for works connected with water-supply. Loans amounting to Rs. 7·2 lakhs were advanced by Government during the year compared with Rs. 8·4 lakhs for last year. The Madura Municipal

Council borrowed Rs. 2·9 lakhs for drainage works and the municipal councils of Bellary and Trichinopoly borrowed Rs. 1·2 lakhs and Rs. 0·7 lakh, respectively, for works connected with their water-supply schemes. The Tinnevelly Municipal Council took a loan of Rs. 0·4 lakh in order to repair the damage caused by floods. Several other municipal councils borrowed smaller sums for various purposes.

Expenditure

115. The total expenditure (both ordinary and capital) amounted to Rs. 163·6 lakhs compared with Rs. 141·1 lakhs in the previous year.

Communications

The expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 20·6 lakhs, of which Rs. 11·7 lakhs were spent on the maintenance of roads and Rs. 6 lakhs on lighting. During the year the Public Works Department had under execution new schemes for the supply of water to seven municipalities, improvements and extensions to the existing works in nine and drainage schemes in two. Proceedings for the acquisition of land for the purpose of opening conservancy lanes as a preliminary to the installation of a drainage system were in progress in one municipality.

Water-supply and drainage

The total expenditure in connexion with water-supply and drainage schemes, including expenditure on capital works, amounted to Rs. 32·6 lakhs compared with Rs. 26 lakhs in 1924–25. Of this expenditure, a sum of Rs. 11·9 lakhs was met from grants from provincial funds and Rs. 2·3 lakhs from loans advanced by Government.

Medical relief

Municipal councils maintained altogether 124 medical institutions in which 36,474 in-patients and 2,308,851 out-patients received treatment during the year. The total expenditure incurred by municipal councils on medical relief was Rs. 7·3 lakhs and on sanitation Rs. 20·9 lakhs.

Education

There were 1,352 elementary schools under the management of municipal councils compared with 1,303 in the previous year. The number of municipal secondary schools rose from 48 to 51 and one municipal council continued to maintain a college. The total expenditure on elementary education was Rs. 13·2 lakhs, of which Rs. 7·2 lakhs was met from Government grants and

Rs. 5·8 lakhs from general municipal funds. The total expenditure incurred on secondary education amounted to Rs. 7·7 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·8 lakhs was covered by subsidies from provincial funds.

The aggregate closing balance of the year, including both ordinary and capital, was Rs. 36·2 lakhs against Rs. 36·8 lakhs at the close of the previous year. The balance of provincial loans outstanding against the municipal councils at the end of the year rose from Rs. 48·1 lakhs to Rs. 51·3 lakhs. Closing balance and debt

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—CITY OF MADRAS (1925–26)

[*Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras; Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

116. The total receipts of the Corporation of Madras for the year, including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 99,05,214 as compared with Rs. 1,03,67,473 in the previous year. Finance

Revenue from all sources amounted to Rupees 55,12,798 as against Rs. 61,69,101 in 1924–25, the decrease being chiefly due to realization of arrears of property tax due by Government in the previous year and also to the reduction of the rate of property tax by 1½ per cent during the year under report. Towards this revenue municipal taxes contributed Rs. 40,33,826 and municipal fees and miscellaneous receipts Rs. 14,78,972.

The incidence of taxation per head of the population under all taxes (including tolls) was Rs. 7–10–6 as against Rs. 9–1–0 in the previous year. The Corporation received from Government during the year a free grant of Rs. 6 lakhs and a loan of Rs. 6 lakhs for improvement of water-supply and drainage.

The debt at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 150·86 lakhs and the sinking fund for the loans, exclusive of Government loans repayable in instalments, was Rs. 47·54 lakhs, of which Rs. 47·34 lakhs were in Government securities and Madras municipal debentures, and Rs. 20,149 in cash.

PRO-TECTION

Payments amounting to Rs. 7,45,644 were made during the year towards the repayment of Government loans (Rs. 72½ lakhs) and interest thereon.

Works

117. The total sum expended on works during the year amounted to Rs. 33·49 lakhs as against Rs. 35·42 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum Rs. 17·10 lakhs was spent on new works, Rs. 14·53 lakhs on repairs and Rs. 1·86 lakhs on establishment and miscellaneous charges.

Communications

Two miles and 5 furlongs of roads in the city were metalled for the first time and 60·34 miles of roads were re-formed. Three miles and 5½ furlongs of roads were tarred for the first time and 3 miles and 7 furlongs were re-tarred. The total length of tarred roads in the city at the end of the year was 36 miles, 3 furlongs and 168 yards. During the year a sum of Rs. 67,074 was spent on general improvements in the communications of the city and Rs. 6·26 lakhs on repairs.

Buildings

There was a considerable decrease in the amount spent on new buildings which was Rs. 4·27 lakhs in 1924-25 and Rs. 2·97 lakhs in 1925-26. Rs. 60,742 was spent on repairs to buildings during the year as compared with Rs. 48,559 in the previous year.

During the year 19 bathing fountains were constructed; the old Leper Asylum which was handed over to the Corporation to be used as a home for beggars was whitewashed and disinfected, and the installation of electric lights therein was in progress; model houses in Swami Reddi Cheri were constructed and the construction of 30 model houses in Cockrane Basin Road was nearing completion at the end of the year. Several improvements to slums and hutting grounds were made, such as improvements to existing latrines, provision of bathing ghats, side drains, new latrines and sewer connexions.

In last year's report reference is made to the development of the Māmbalam eastern scheme. At the beginning of the year 1925–26 the necessary acquisitions were made in order to provide direct connexions between Madras and Māmbalam. Four new roads were formed and the road from Madras to Saidapet through Māmbalam was

opened for light vehicular traffic. In order to drain the sewage and rain water from Puliyur, Kōdambakkam and the acquired area of Māmbalam, a channel was cut and directed to the river Adyar.

Drainage

A sum of Rs. 12·93 lakhs was expended during the year on new drainage works and Rs. 3·76 lakhs on maintenance. The total length of sewers laid during the year was 125,556 feet which was nearly the same as in the previous year. As complaints about insanitary conditions were received from several streets in the first four divisions which were not originally provided with sewers, arrangements were being made for constructing sewers in these divisions. All the sewers laid down during the year were as far as possible put into use by completing the house connexions, and 128 house connexions to the sewers were constructed.

Water-supply

The quantity of water supplied in the City during the year was 5,535·4 million gallons which is equivalent to nearly 29·2 gallons per head per day. The quantity of water taken out of the Red Hills lake during the year was 944,169,507 cubic feet as against 858,069,963 cubic feet in the previous year. The water level at the lake was satisfactory throughout the year and there was no scarcity of water-supply. The expenditure on new works amounted to Rs. 16,747 as compared with Rs. 5·41 lakhs in the previous year, the large decrease being due to the fact that the Corporation are waiting for Government sanction for purchasing and laying pipes to the value of Rs. 3·32 lakhs for further improvements of the water distribution system. A sum of Rs. 3·39 lakhs was spent on maintenance work. During the year, 896 new house-service connexions were laid by licensed plumbers and the total number of house-service connexions in the City on 31st March 1926 was 33,895. At the end of the year there were in the City 2,206 fountains, 82 cattle troughs and 75 bathing fountains, of which 117 fountains, 6 cattle troughs and 19 bathing fountains were erected during the year under report.

Education

118. The total number of schools under the control of the Corporation rose from 51 to 78.

Twelve schools were opened by the Corporation in rented buildings. Twelve Government Muhammadan boys' schools were transferred from Government to the management of the Corporation and three Panchama schools were taken over by the Corporation from Olcott Panchama Free Schools' Society. Steps were being taken to acquire sites for the construction of buildings to locate those schools which were being held in rented buildings. Night schools were held in 30 of the Corporation schools. The articles made by the pupils of the Corporation schools were exhibited during the Park Fair for 1925–26 and in appreciation of the excellence of the exhibits a gold medal was awarded to the Corporation by the South Indian Athletic Association.

The expenditure on education during the year amounted to Rs. 2·94 lakhs as against Rs. 2·23 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 2·26 lakhs was paid from the Corporation funds as contribution towards the Education fund. The amount realized by the levy of education tax at ¼ per cent during the year was Rs. 27,479, and a sum of Rs. 20,800 was received as grant from Government for the maintenance of the 12 Muhammadan boys' schools and 2 Muhammadan girls' schools transferred to the control of the Corporation.

Sanitation and medical services

119. The expenditure on sanitation amounted to Rs. 8·08 lakhs and maintenance of the Corporation hospitals cost Rs. 3·05 lakhs. Contributions amounting to Rs. 23,604 were paid to hospitals and dispensaries.

Miscellaneous

Anti-malarial operations

120. All the special anti-malarial operations were stopped during the year 1925 on account of lack of funds, but, as a sum of Rs. 5,000 was sanctioned after the close of that year, the cleaning of the anti-malarial drains, cleaning of the surface of wells in Georgetown, introduction of larvicidal fish, clearing rank vegetation, and cleaning of insanitary wells and public tanks were again undertaken during the year 1926.

All the streets in Madras City are now provided with electric lights with the exception of the streets in Māmbalam where there are 20 petrol lights. The expenditure under this head was

Rs. 3·06 lakhs, of which Rs. 2·52 lakhs was spent on maintenance. Expenditure on the public parks during the year amounted to Rs. 37,624 as against Rs. 39,884 in the previous year. The cost of maintaining the fire engines was Rs. 28,914. There were 77 fire calls during the year as against 76 in the previous year, but only in 27 cases was there any work for the engines.

MILITARY—AUXILIARY AND TERRITORIAL FORCES (1925-26)

Auxiliary Force

121. On 31st March 1926, the strength of the twelve Auxiliary Force units in the Madras District (Military) was 6,360. The Southern Provinces Mounted Rifles formed two additional patrols in the Quilon area. A third launch was added to the Cochin Light Motor Boat Patrol of the Nilgiri Malabar Battalion, which is subsidized by the State. A cadet platoon of 36 (all ranks) was formed at Cannanore and was attached to the Nilgiri Malabar Battalion.

Over 65 per cent of the personnel of the Auxiliary Forces attended the Annual Camps held during 1925-26; several of the units sent representatives and teams to the South Indian Rifle Association Meeting, where they met with considerable success.

Indian Territorial Force

The strength of the five Indian Territorial Force Units in the Madras District (Military) was 3,029 on 31st March 1926. The efficiency of all ranks was improved by the annual training of the Force and by special courses for Platoon Commanders and Non-commissioned officers.

MARINE (1925-26)

[*Reports of the Madras Port Trust, the Madras Port Fund, the Tuticorin Port Trust, the Tuticorin Port Fund and the Madras Port Department for the year 1925-26; Statistical Abstract for British India –Port Trusts*]

Madras Port Trust

122. The result of working the Madras harbour during the year was satisfactory and indicated a slow and steady expansion of trade.

Finance

The gross receipts of the Madras Port Trust amounting to Rs. 35,12,861 were the largest on record. The working expenses, inclusive of interest on capital and amortization, amounted to Rs. 30,88,982 as compared with Rs. 28,50,879 in 1924-25. The net result of the working for the year was a surplus of Rs. 4,23,879. The outstanding amount of loans due to the Secretary of State for India in Council was Rs. 1,41,14,723 at the close of the year under report. A sum of Rs. 66,528 was contributed during the year towards the sinking fund for repaying the loan of £330,000 raised in the London market in 1923. The total amount of Government securities that stood to the credit of the sinking fund at the end of the year under report was Rs. 2,60,200.

Traffic

The number of vessels that entered the harbour increased from 674 in 1924-25 to 718 in the year 1925-26, while the total net registered tonnage increased from 2,190,111 to 2,461,134 tons. The size of vessels using this port is gradually increasing. The total number of Indian passengers who left Madras on short voyages during the year was 99,794, an increase over the figure for the previous year, due to the fact that considerably more passengers left Madras for the Straits.

The total tonnage of the imports and exports during the year was the largest on record and amounted to 1,159,834 tons. The total value of the trade of the port amounted to Rs. 4,176 lakhs which represented 44 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency.

Imports

The tonnage of imports was 857,441, the largest on record. There was an increase in the tonnage of imports of cement, coal, liquid fuel, benzene, railway materials and timber. The imports of

chemicals, glassware and motor cars and buses were the largest on record.

The total tonnage of exports during the year was 302,393, the largest on record, and the increase is chiefly due to the expansion of groundnut and cotton trade. The shipment of cotton amounted to 25,813 tons or an increase of 61 per cent over the figure for the previous year. The exports of groundnut formed 54 per cent of the total tonnage of the port. Exports

Several original and repair works were in progress during the year. The actual construction of the new deep-water quay for which an estimate has been sanctioned could not be started during the year under report as the steam barge "Wenlock" was not ready for conversion into a pile-driving plant till late in the year. Works

The breakwater has been practically completed except for the mass concrete which will be laid in the fair weather of 1926-27.

Four 3-ton electric portal cranes ordered in 1924 were received towards the close of the year and are being erected.

The ferro-concrete electric crane track was extended during the year at a cost of about a lakh of rupees.

A new rubble stone revetment estimated to cost over a lakh of rupees was being constructed and this revetment will give an additional area of four acres for traffic use.

The dredger "Madras" underwent extensive overhauling during the year under report and two new boilers were ordered to replace the boilers condemned.

There were eleven accidents during the year, but those accidents did not cause any serious damage to shipping. The rate of harbour dues on iron and steel was altered from Rs. 2-8-0 per ton to Rs. 2-14-0 per ton.

123. The ordinary receipts of the Port Fund were Rs. 2,22,325 and the ordinary charges were Rs. 1,60,923. There was an increase under port dues and mooring dues which is accounted for by an increase in the number and tonnage of vessels of all classes. As regards expenditure, there was a **Madras Port Fund**

decrease in the charges for establishment, but there was an increase of expenditure under mooring tug charges, due to the adjustment of part of the cost of the thorough overhauling of the tug.

Tuticorin Port Trust

Finance

124. There was an increase in the trade of the Tuticorin port, and consequently an increase in the total receipts which amounted to Rs. 4,09,512 as against Rs. 3,65,594 in the year 1924–25. The increase was principally due to a satisfactory cotton crop and to increased import of grain The working expenses for the year amounted to Rs. 4,60,894, of which a sum of Rs. 1,64,318 was spent on dredging the approach channel, and a sum of Rs. 72,397 was paid as interest on loans. The amount of loan outstanding on 1st April 1926 was Rs. 16,80,287.

Traffic

The number of vessels that entered the port was 1,023 with a net registered tonnage of 1,029,969 tons. This is the largest tonnage recorded since the year 1913–14. The total value of the trade of the port during the year amounted to Rs. 13,57,64,146 which figure shows an excess of Rs. 45,87,961 over last year's figure. 39,482 passengers arrived at the port during the year and 42,041 passengers left the port. Nearly all these passengers were proceeding to and returning from Ceylon.

Imports and exports

The total tonnage of the imports and exports was 432,843 tons, an increase of about 45,000 tons over the tonnage for the previous year. The principal imports were grain, pulse, machinery, metals, raw silk, seeds, cotton twist and yarn, piece-goods and timber. The principal exports were raw cotton, tea, cotton twist and yarn, cotton goods, oil-cake and cattle food, spices, dry fish, drugs, cattle and vegetables.

Works

The harbour dipper dredger "St. George" which arrived in March 1925 was used in dredging the boat channel and turning basin that are being formed under the scheme for the New Harbour Works. The site for the dry dock was also dredged as far as hard rock found at eleven feet below low-water. Several improvements to the present port were carried out during the year.

Tuticorin Port Fund

125. A sum of Rs. 1,24,368 was collected in port dues during the year. The receipts of

the port fund amounted to Rs. 1,95,978 and the charges to Rs. 1,07,787. The closing balance amounted to Rs. 1,02,845 in cash and to Rs. 56,000 in Government securities.

The following are the six chief minor ports administered by the Port Department according to the value of trade :—Cochin, Calicut, Cocanada, Mangalore, Negapatam and Cuddalore.

Minor ports

126. Vizagapatam was declared a major port in May 1925 and all business connected with the construction of the new harbour was transferred to the Railway Department from 6th May 1925. At Cochin the experimental stage of the harbour improvements was completed by 15th September 1925.

The aggregate value of sea-borne trade of the minor ports in the Presidency, except Tuticorin, was Rs. 40·02 crores against Rs. 38·38 crores for the previous year.

16,214 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 6,279,484 tons entered the several ports, excluding Tuticorin, during the year.

Civil officers, the Public Works Department and the Harbour Engineer-in-chief's Department executed works during the year.

The receipts of Port and Marine funds amounted to Rs. 35·59 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 26·28 lakhs. The receipts include a loan of Rs. 15½ lakhs taken by the Port Conservancy Board, Cochin, and the expenditure includes about Rs. 15¼ lakhs spent on capital works connected with the harbour works at the port. The closing balance consisted of Rs. 17·20 lakhs in cash and Rs. 38·08 lakhs in Government securities.

The total number of wrecks and casualties reported from outports, except Tuticorin, was 39 against 12 in the previous year. A cyclonic storm passed over the west coast in November 1925 causing severe damage to shipping and also loss of life.

MORTALITY FROM WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES (1925)

[*Annual statement of the mortality caused by wild animals and snakes and the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals during the calendar year 1925*]

Mortality

Wild animals

Snakes

127. The number of persons killed by wild animals during 1925 was 452 as against 641 in the year 1924. The largest number of deaths, chiefly from tigers, occurred in Vizagapatam and Ganjām districts. The number of persons who died from snake bite was 895, less than last year's figure, which was 1,099; there were 92 deaths in the Tanjore district and 77 in the Chittoor district.

Reward

128. During the year, 566 wild animals, of which 106 were tigers and 460 were classed as leopards, panthers or cheetahs, were destroyed. The number destroyed in 1924 was 548. Rewards amounting to Rs. 14,036 were paid for the destruction of these animals.

ARMS, EXPLOSIVES AND SULPHUR LICENCES (1925)

[*Reports on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts and on the transactions in sulphur*]

Arms Act

129. The revised rules under the Indian Arms Act came into force on the 1st January 1924. The number of licences, issued under the Indian Arms Act and the rules made under it, in force during 1925 was 71,030 as against 68,977 in the previous year. The following statement shows the description and number of arms for which licences were in force in the years 1924 and 1925:—

Year.	Rifled arms.			Smooth-bore guns.				Revolvers.	Pistols.
	Magazine.	Double barrelled.	Single barrelled.	D.B. B.L.	S.B. B.L.	D.B. M.L.	S.B. M.L.		
1924 ...	211	262	1,523	5,361	12,347	3,517	39,924	4,204	678
1925 ...	146	321	1,675	5,477	13,710	3,619	40,720	4,197	725

Of the 71,030 licences, 54,253 were for possession of arms and ammunition and for going armed for sport, protection or display, and 15,640 were for the possession of arms and ammunition and for going armed for the destruction of wild animals that do injury to crops or cattle.

Explosives Act

The number of licences granted under the Explosives Act was 14,516 in the year 1924, and 15,656 in 1925.

11,890 licences were granted for the possession of gunpowder and other explosives required for blasting purposes ; the number of these licences was large in the districts of Coimbatore (7,181), Madura (2,918), and Trichinopoly (1,205).

Prosecutions

For offences under the Arms Act and the Explosives Act, 511 prosecutions were instituted during the year, of which 419 resulted in conviction of the offenders. There were more convictions in Coimbatore than in any other district.

Sulphur

There was a slight increase in the number of sulphur licences in force, which was 292 in 1924, and 307 in 1925, of which 277 were old licences and 30 new licences, but the aggregate quantity for which licences were issued fell from 905 tons in 1924 to 735 in the year under report.

Illicit manufacture of fire-arms

No case of illicit manufacture of fire-arms was detected in any part of the Presidency.

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

AGRICULTURE (1925-26)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1925-26; Statistical Abstract for British India —Agricultural Statistics*]

Agricultural education

130. The Agricultural College, Coimbatore, and two agricultural middle schools were managed by the Agricultural Department during the year. At Coimbatore, as the Certificate course came to an end in April 1925, only the Degree course was in progress during the year. In addition to the usual lectures given by the teaching staff, lectures were delivered by the Sugarcane Expert, the Millet Specialist, the Assistant Cotton Specialist, and the Personal Assistant to the Director of Agriculture. At the end of the year there were 48 students on the rolls of the College.

Forty-five boys passed from the Agricultural Middle School at Taliparamba up to the end of the year 1925-26. It cannot be said that the school has failed in its object, as 13 of these 45 boys are directly engaged in farming their own land.

The Middle School at Anakāpalle, however, was not altogether a success, and it appears that the value of practical training in improved methods of agriculture is not sufficiently appreciated in that locality. Classes for juvenile and adult labourers were continued at the agricultural stations at Coimbatore, Pālūr and Anakāpalle.

Research

Paddy

131. Research work was carried out by specialists at Coimbatore, where they had the advantage of laboratories and special stations; research work was also done on the agricultural experiment stations in the districts. At the Paddy Breeding Station, Coimbatore, the research work may be

divided into two classes—firstly economic, the multiplication and trial of improved strains by selection ; secondly academic, the study of the mechanism of inheritance of characters on Mendelian lines. From this paddy breeding station 20,422 lb. of seed were distributed, and 17,363 lb. from the central farm where bulk crops were grown. The paddy breeding station, established at Āduturai in 1922, was very popular, and the demand for paddy seed was far greater than the stock available.

The Department also started a paddy breeding station at Maruteru in order to evolve strains of paddy suited to the land in the Kistna and Gōdāvari deltas.

Manure

Experiments were conducted to test the efficacy of nitrate of soda in manure. At Coimbatore it was found that the cheaper green-leaf manure was more economical and that the yield was not improved by the addition of nitrate.

At Āduturai, the results obtained were contradictory and the work will be continued. Experiments conducted over a period of five years at the Samalkota Experimental Station established the fact that on good land the use of green manure and bone meal is of doubtful value, but on poor land this system of manuring results in handsome profits.

Cotton

The Department was engaged in producing better strains of cotton by selection, and also new types of cotton suited to special districts by means of hybridization. This work was being done at the main breeding station at Coimbatore, and also on the experimental stations at Kōvilpatti, Hagari, Nandyal and Guntūr. Research work and experiments were carried out on the breeding and manuring of sugarcane, millets, coconuts, potatoes and betel vines.

Fruit culture

132. Different varieties of fruit were tested at the Pomological Station, Coonoor. During the year the fruit crops were good, particularly the crop of plums which gave 2,743 lb. of fruit. There was a fair demand for young stock from the nurseries ; 805 grafted trees and 909 seedlings were distributed during the year. At Burliar, the

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

mangosteen crop was smaller than the crop grown in 1924–25 ; *Fijoa sellowiana* produced a few fruits and should bear well in the near future.

At Kallar, there was a good mango crop, but there was difficulty in gathering this crop on account of the attack of fruit fly.

Livestock

133. Four cattle farms were managed by the Department. The largest is at Hosūr and extends over 1,600 acres. This station is of historic interest, as it dates from the year 1828, when it was established as a military remount depot. It was taken over from the Military Department in September 1924.

Two herds were maintained for cross-breeding ; the "Bangalore herd," consisting of 83 animals, which were divided between the farms at Coimbatore and Hosūr, and the "Coimbatore herd," a mixed herd of 88 cross-breds selected from the old dairy herd at Coimbatore. At Coimbatore the Department keeps a milch herd and there is a model dairy which produced about 2,000 lb. of milk a month. There were also farms at Chintaladevi, where a farm was maintained for the study of the Ongole breed, and at Guntūr, where there was a small buffalo herd.

Aids to the public

Operations against disease

134. The Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act was applied during the year to the whole of the Madura district, and to taluks in the Salem, Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts. The Act was amended to make it illegal to have Cambodia cotton on the ground after 31st August. In the Madura district alone the Act was worked in a satisfactory manner. There the ryots admitted that they understood the necessity for the timely removal of the crop and that they saw an improvement in the general health and quality of the cotton crop. In 1920 the Pest Act was applied to the districts of Kistna, East Gōdāvari and West Gōdāvari in order to control "bud rot," a disease which attacks both palmyra and coconut palms. For work involved in fighting this disease, a special staff was employed under the Revenue Department during the year. In January 1926 the Pest Act was extended to operate over the whole of South Kanara, on account of the spread of the

coconut caterpillar throughout the district. Operations against this disease include the burning of coconut palm leaves and the introduction of parasites. The latter operation was very successful during the year.

Demonstration work

During the year a large number of agricultural improvements, such as economic planting of paddy and the advantage of thin nursery-beds, the use of green manures and other fertilizers, improved ploughing with iron ploughs, were demonstrated on demonstration plots on land belonging to the ryots. In the cotton areas, the demonstrations showed improvements effected by new strains of seed, better methods of picking, and the use of drills for sowing ; while in the sugarcane areas, special attention was devoted to line planting, propping and wrapping, the use of iron mills and an improved furnace. The Department arranged to hold small agricultural exhibitions at local fairs and car festivals, and also to deliver lectures at jamabandi camps held by the Revenue officers.

Tangible results of the work of the Department during the year were that over 78 tons of seed of improved strains of paddy were distributed, that a considerable quantity of Cambodia cotton seed, which was obtained from the seed farms in 1924-25, and 61,080 lb. of Karunganni cotton seed were distributed, that 1,713 ploughs of various kinds were sold, and that 109 tons of seed for green manure were sold to ryots from the depots.

Finance

135. The expenditure of the Department during the year amounted to Rs. 15,38,532. The increase over the expenditure of the previous year (Rs. 13,72,179) was mainly due to the cost of land acquired for the new paddy breeding station at Maruteru, the extra compensation awarded by courts in respect of land acquired, and the charges consequent on the development of the cattle farm at Hosūr. Receipts amounted to Rs. 2,47,193.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

[*Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department for the year 1925-26*]

General

136. In October 1925, the Chief Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, was appointed Veterinary Adviser to Government, and the Principal of the Madras Veterinary College, who till then had been independent of the Chief Superintendent, was placed under his control, with the result that now there is one administrative officer in charge of the Veterinary Service throughout the Presidency. The question of increasing the number of circles was also considered by the Government and an order was passed sanctioning the formation of a sixth circle with headquarters at Madura. Six new veterinary dispensaries were started during the year and six additional touring officers were appointed.

Hospitals

137. At present animals are treated at Government hospitals, which number 76, and touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons attend to outbreaks of disease. The work done at hospitals considerably increased, and 104,059 animals were treated in all the institutions as compared with 96,337 in the year 1924-25. In addition, 3,103 castrations were performed at the institutions and medicine was supplied in 5,998 cases for animals not taken to the hospitals.

Itinerating staff

138. There was a decrease in the number of cases of contagious and non-contagious diseases treated by the itinerating officers, and in the number of castrations performed by them, which was mainly due to the fact that they were engaged in inoculation work consequent on a severe outbreak of rinderpest. They attended to 16,951 cases of contagious diseases and 36,594 cases of non-contagious diseases. The touring staff carried out 146,119 inoculations against rinderpest by the "serum alone" method and 529 animals were inoculated by the "serum simultaneous" method. These figures show a considerable increase as compared with the figures for the previous year, when the Department performed 10,216 inoculations

by the "serum alone" method and 212 inoculations by the "serum simultaneous" method.

139. The figures of cattle mortality were very high, owing to the outbreak of rinderpest in the districts of Kurnool, Bellary, South Kanara, Ganjām, Kistna and Guntūr. This disease alone claimed 23,724 victims, of which 11,393 died in the Kurnool district as against 9,681 in the previous year. Compulsory inoculation was enforced in the districts of Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapah, South Kanara and Rāmnād, and the fee levied for inoculations by the "serum simultaneous" method was abolished in order to popularize this method. In connexion with the outbreak of rinderpest, it must be observed that a number of village officers failed to realize the importance of promptitude in reporting outbreaks of disease. There was an increase in the number of deaths from *hæmorrhagic septicæmia*, which disease was severe in Tanjore, Kistna and Guntūr districts, from anthrax, though it is evident that many deaths recorded in the Kurnool district as due to this disease were due to some other disease, from black quarter, and from foot-and-mouth disease. During the year there were 45,147 deaths from contagious diseases as against 29,654 in the previous year. Diseases

140. The staff conducted 57 post-mortem examinations on animals in cases of suspected criminal poisoning and examined 137 animals for malicious injuries; the Chemical Examiner examined viscera in 58 cases. Miscellaneous

The number of convictions under the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was 5,562, of which 2,923 related to Trichinopoly, where, it is reported, there was a tendency to employ cheap and worn-out animals to draw heavy loads, and where the S.P.C.A. is a very active body.

141. The working of the Veterinary College continued to be satisfactory. The decrease in the number of students, 60 as against 74 in the year 1924–25, was probably due to want of prospects of Government employment for those who pass out of the college and to the restriction of the number of stipends allowed in a year. Though there was Veterinary College

an increase in the number of animals treated at the College Hospital, the receipts fell from Rs. 13,958 to Rs. 12,533.

Finance

142. Expenditure of the Department, including a sum of Rs. 33,514 spent by the Public Works Department on veterinary buildings, amounted to Rs. 6,61,998 and the receipts amounted to Rs. 19,794.

FISHERIES (1925–26)

[*Administration Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending 30th June 1926*]

General

143. The work of the Department of Fisheries was developed considerably during the year ; the receipts and expenditure were much greater than those of the previous year. The chief noteworthy features were the pearl fishery of 1926, the purchase of a fishery research vessel, and the revival of the post of Assistant Director of Fisheries (Marine).

Marine Fisheries

Government Fisheries Cannery

144. In view of the large stock of canned fish and poor sales, manufacture was suspended at the Cannery from 1st April 1925, and the staff was reduced to a minimum. At the beginning of the year under review, the stock was 177,409 tins. The sales during the year were poor, only 26,345 tins were sold as against 33,886 tins sold in the previous year. 5,882 tins were destroyed, of which 3,961 tins were the result of an experiment made years before which did not find favour with the public. The Government, after consulting Sir F. A. Nicholson with regard to the future of the Cannery, have decided to continue it till 31st March 1927 and to give his suggestions a trial, stipulating that no additional expenditure on machinery or buildings should be incurred.

Tanur Experimental Station

The Tanur Experimental Station yielded a small profit of Rs. 101 ; in the previous year the loss was Rs. 3,763. Fish caught during the year were coarse varieties, miscellaneous small fish and prawns. Among the shoaling fish, sardines were rare, except for a few days, but mackerel were more

regular. In the previous year 83,843 lb. of fish were brought for curing ; in the year under review the quantity was 88,284 lb. Research work and experiments were continued.

Private oil and guano factories

The number of private oil and guano factories in Malabar and South Kanara fell from 515 in the previous year to 463 in the year under report ; some of the factories did not work owing to the shortage of sardines. It is estimated that 9,850 tons of guano, valued at Rs. 7,50,000, 4,980 tons of fish oil valued at Rs. 8,50,000, and 1,000 tons of fish-manure valued at Rs. 70,000, were manufactured during the year. The estimates of the quantities manufactured during the previous year were 4,000 tons of guano, 2,000 tons of oil and 1,000 tons of fish-manure.

Pearl and chank fisheries

The anticipations of 1924-25 were realized in a successful pearl fishing held off Tuticorin, which yielded a substantial net profit of Rs. 1,36,417. The fishery was opened on the 17th of February, but had to be closed on March 27th owing to an outbreak of cholera in the camp. The number of oysters obtained for Government was 9,309,493 and the sale-proceeds amounted to Rs. 2,16,508. Though pearl fishing was undertaken during the best chank season, the staff were able to carry on chank fisheries in Rāmnād during the long spell of good weather after the closing of the pearl fishery.

The net receipts from chank fisheries amounted to Rs. 28,403 as against Rs. 3,844 in the year 1924–25. The revenue derived from pearl and chank fisheries in the year 1925–26 falls short of the "record" revenue of the year 1807 by only Rs. 3,081.

Fish-curing yards

There were 106 yards at the beginning of the year ;—the Bembellur yard was closed from April 1st, 1926, and a new yard was started at Kadalundi. The newly constructed Kizhur yard was opened on 1st October 1925; a new yard was constructed at Mulapeta in the Gōdāvari district. The fishermen of the Malabar coast suffered considerably from the cyclone that visited the central portion of Malabar on the 11th November 1925. For a long time after the cyclone, the surviving fishermen

were afraid to go far out to sea. The weight of fish brought to the yards was 1,150,492 maunds as against 1,305,027 maunds for the previous year.

Deep-sea fishing experiments

An Admiralty trawler "T.R. 8," purchased for fishery work at a cost of Rs. 1,04,456, arrived at Tuticorin on April 21st. Work was not commenced as fishing tackle had not arrived from England.

Marine Aquarium

The Marine Aquarium continued to be popular. The total receipts for the year were Rs. 9,393 ; the net profit for the year, Rs. 3,951, is higher than the profit for any previous year.

Oyster supply

During the year under report, the value of the sales of biological specimens increased by nearly a thousand rupees, but oyster sales were lower than the sales of the previous year.

Research

The Department continued its research on the habits and life history of the sardine and Indian mackerel.

Inland Pisciculture

145. There was an increase in the total receipts from inland fisheries—Rs. 1,11,005 as against Rs. 1,09,467 in the previous year—as the rains were more favourable and there was better competition at the public auctions. The net profits, however, were lower, and amounted to Rs. 8,877.

The fry bred in the five fish farms at Sunkesula, Praema, Ippur, Perambūr and Vellore were distributed to the tanks and channels in the neighbourhood.

The exotic food-fish *Gourami* was introduced in the newly constructed Vellore Fort Moat Fish Farm.

The Government sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 500 for preliminary investigation concerning cultural operations on *Hilsa** in the Gōdāvari and Kistna rivers, and rearing the young in the Colair Lake.

Socio-economic activities

146. The number of pupil teachers in the Fisheries Training Institute was 42. Five pupil teachers left the school on account of ill-health or unsatisfactory progress in studies. At the beginning of the year, 33 village schools were under

* The Hilsa is a valuable food-fish which is in great demand. Shoals of this fish visit the Gōdāvari, Kistna, Cauvery and Coleroon during the south-west monsoon for spawning.

the control of the Fisheries Department. There was a decrease in the number of pupils attending the schools, 2,294 as against 2,450 in the previous year. The officers of the Department assisted in the relief measures started to relieve distress among fishermen—after the cyclone of November 1925. The number of co-operative societies formed for the benefit of fishermen rose from 56 to 60 and the number of members of these societies also increased.

147. The revenue of the Department during the year was Rs. 8,46,842 and the expenditure was Rs. 8,48,196, including the expenditure on the trawler. But the sum of Rs. 16,860, included in the expenditure, represents railway freight of salt in the 1924-25 season, which was adjusted in the accounts of this year. **Finance**

WEATHER AND CROPS

(FASLI 1335—1ST JULY 1925 TO 30TH JUNE 1926)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1335; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

148. The south-west monsoon commenced on the West Coast about the end of May, earlier than usual, and gave heavy and continuous rainfall till the end of August, with breaks from the 8th to the 18th of June and the 3rd to the 9th July. These breaks retarded agricultural operations in South Kanara to some extent. There were heavy floods in July in all the rivers in South Kanara. The damage done by them to crops was not however so great as in the two previous years. Government gave timely relief to the distressed people for the reclamation of their lands by granting loans to the extent of Rs. 15,050 at the concessional rate of 4 per cent interest. **South-west monsoon**

The monsoon commenced in time in the Circars and gave good and fairly well distributed rainfall till the end of August, when it slackened. There were breaks from the 4th to the 16th June and the 30th June to the 10th July. Strong freshes came

down the rivers from July and there were abnormal floods in the Colair and Budameru in the Kistna district. There was some loss owing to submersion in the low-lying parts of the Sarvasiddhi taluk of the Vizagapatam district, the Pithāpuram division of East Gōdāvari, the taluks of Bhīmavaram and Narasapur of West Gōdāvari, and the taluks of Bezwada, Kaikalūr, Gudivāda and Bandar of Kistna. The monsoon was weak in Salem and the South ; water-supplies were received in the main rivers only about the end of June. In the Deccan, Carnatic, and Central districts except Salem, the monsoon was late by a fortnight. There were slight showers on the 18th and 19th June, but there was little or no rainfall afterwards for a month. The monsoon strengthened in the middle of July and, with short breaks at intervals, gave fairly good rains till the 29th August. These rains gave partial supplies to tanks in North Arcot and parts of the Deccan and Carnatic districts. The rainfall in September was seriously in defect, as there was a long break till the 17th September except in Chingleput and South Arcot.

The rainfall in the south-west monsoon period was up to or above the average in the Circars, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, Coimbatore and the West Coast; it was, however, less than in last year except in the Circars. The rainfall in Kurnool, Bellary and South Arcot was timely though it was below the average. Water-supply was good in the Circars and on the West Coast, but was inadequate in Bellary and Anantapur and in parts of the Central and Southern districts, especially in Coimbatore where the supply of water in garden wells in several places was low owing to inadequate rainfall in previous years.

Crops

Sowings of early crops were generally satisfactory, especially in the Deccan and the Carnatic, as people eagerly availed themselves of the rains that fell, even though they were inadequate in parts. Sowings of dry crops were restricted in the South. The total area of dry crops sown during this period was less than in the previous year generally, except in the Carnatic, but sowings of wet crops were greater than in the previous

year except on the West Coast. Early crops in parts of East Gōdāvari, West Gōdāvari and Kistna were slightly affected by the heavy rains of August, while dry crops in parts of the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Madura suffered from drought. Dry crops in parts of the Anantapur district were affected by grasshoppers, but the lands were mostly resown and the damage was slight. Dry crops in parts of the taluks of Harpanahalli and Hadagalli of Bellary were slightly damaged by grasshoppers. Early crops gave fairly good yields, especially in the Circars.

On the whole the south-west monsoon was fairly favourable except in North Arcot, Salem, and parts of Coimbatore and Madura.

149. The north-east monsoon commenced in time at the beginning of October and gave heavy rains in the Carnatic and Tanjore till the end of December with occasional breaks. Heavy rains were also received in the first half of October in the Circars, Deccan, Chittoor, North Arcot and on the West Coast. The monsoon slackened thereafter in the Circars (except Guntūr), but good rains continued to be received at intervals up to the end of November in most of the other districts, viz., Deccan (about the middle and end of November), Chittoor and North Arcot (second week of November), Coimbatore and the South (one month from the 22nd October), and the West Coast (second fortnight of October and the second week of November). Heavy floods were received in the Tāmbraparni ; many tanks and channels breached and numerous fields under crop were silted up in the Srīvaikuntam taluk of Tinnevelly. On the 10th and 11th November a violent cyclone swept over the coast of Malabar from Badagara to Cannanore and inland for a distance of about 20 miles, resulting in loss of life and damage to a number of fishing boats, thatched houses, and coconut and plantain trees in the taluks of Kottayam, Kurumbranād and Calicut. Excessive rains were received in the first half of December all over the Presidency except in the Circars, and they filled most of the irrigation sources. There were floods in the Vaigai ; some of the channels in the Udamalpet

North-east monsoon

taluk of Coimbatore breached on the 11th December and caused damage to crops. The excessive rainfall affected the condition of crops in various stages of growth, interfered with harvests, and caused an increase in some of the more important insect-pests; seedlings of Karunganni cotton in the South were damaged in parts and fields had to be resown.

The rainfall in the north-east monsoon period was up to or above the average in all districts except Salem. It was also more than in last year in most districts. Water-supply was generally sufficient except in parts of Bellary, Anantapur, the Central districts and the non-Periyār areas of Madura.

Crops

The sowings of late crops were satisfactory in the Circars and the South but restricted in the Carnatic owing to excessive rainfall and in the Deccan and Central districts owing to the sowings having been pushed through earlier in the season. Sowings of dry crops were greater than in last year except in the Carnatic while sowings of wet crops were almost the same. Crops in parts of Salem and Bellary suffered from drought. The yield of the main paddy crop in the Circars was good. The yield of *Mungari*, or early cotton, in the Deccan was reduced both in quality and quantity. The heavy rains interfered with the harvest of groundnut.

On the whole, the north-east monsoon was fairly favourable in most districts.

Rainfall later in the season

150. There was a revival of monsoonish conditions in the last week of January, especially in South Arcot, Tanjore, and the Nilgiris where more than six inches were received. The heavy rains in South Arcot and Tanjore fell just when the major portion of the paddy crop was ready for harvest and therefore reduced the yield to some extent. Land slips on the Nilgiri-Mountain Railway and on the New Ghat Road from Mettupalaiyam to Ootacamund impeded the transport of food-grains to the hills for a time. Cotton crops in the Deccan were affected by the cloudy weather in January. There were local rains in the second week of March except in the Deccan and on the West Coast. They were

harmful to the "Cocanadas" cotton under harvest but beneficial to the late gingelly crop. There were fair showers between the 6th and the 12th April and the 20th and the 24th April. There were adequate showers in May only in East Gōdāvari and West Gōdāvari and in parts of the Deccan and the South. The hot-weather showers were less than in last year except in Rāmnād and Tinnevelly.

151. The total rainfall in the year was up to or above the average in all districts except Bellary, Salem and Trichinopoly. It was appreciably less than in last year in the plains portion of Vizagapatam and East Gōdāvari, in Bellary, and on the West Coast and Hills. **Character of the season**

The year was generally favourable to agriculture. The Circars, the Carnatic and Chittoor experienced a good season. The season was better than in the previous three years in the Deccan, North Arcot, Madura and the West Coast. The other districts, however, were adversely affected to a more or less extent; Coimbatore and Tanjore suffering most and Salem and Trichinopoly coming next.

The total area sown was slightly greater than the average area and the area in the previous year. It was up to or above the average in all districts except Ganjām, Kurnool, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, Madura and Rāmnād; the greatest increases were in Nellore and Chittoor. It was up to or above the area in the previous year in all districts except Ganjām and Rāmnād. Area sown

The outturn of most of the important crops was generally slightly above normal in the Circars, Deccan, Nellore, Chingleput, Chittoor and Rāmnād; the outturn of cotton in the Circars and Deccan, cholam in Kistna, Guntūr, Bellary and Nellore, sugarcane in Vizagapatam and Bellary, and tobacco in Guntūr was below normal. The yields of most crops in these districts would have been bumper, but for the excessive rainfall between November and January. The outturn was below normal in the other districts, especially in Coimbatore and Tanjore. Outturn

152. Owing to the inadequate rainfall during the south-west monsoon, the season was not **Relief works**

satisfactory in parts of Coimbatore. The early crops raised on unirrigated lands in parts of Kangayam in Dhārāpuram taluk withered. Agricultural operations were somewhat restricted and there was some unemployment in consequence. Three famine test works were therefore opened on the 1st December 1925, but the attendance was not large owing to the receipt of heavy rains between the 4th and 12th December. The works were accordingly closed on the 15th December.

Remission

153. Seasonal remissions were granted on a large scale on account of inadequate rainfall and scanty supplies in irrigation sources in Anantapur (Rs. 1,28,031 mainly Hindupur and Madakasīra), North Arcot (Rs. 62,196), and Salem (Rs. 1,33,590). Remissions on account of inundation and loss of crop were granted mainly in Kistna. As the season was fairly favourable in Bellary there was no need for suspension or remission of dry assessment. The postponed revenue of faslis 1332 and 1333 in the taluks of Alur and Bellary and of fasli 1333 in the Rayadrug taluk was collected in the year. The resettlement increase of fasli 1334 was collected except in Rayadrug taluk where it was remitted in view of the comparatively unfavourable seasons during the previous three faslis. The collection of loan instalments was postponed in the taluks of Alur, Bellary and Rayadrug.

HORTICULTURE (1925-26)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1925–26 ; Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras for 1925–26*]

Government Botanic Gardens and Parks

154. The Government Botanic Gardens at Ootacamund and Sim's Park, Coonoor, maintained by the Department of Agriculture, continued to be very popular places of resort. Special features during the year were displays of daffodils, which flowered in pots in the conservatory at Ootacamund, basket and tuberous begonias in all shades

of colour, and white hydrangeas. The most striking flowers out-of-doors were a collection of more than a thousand gladioli which came into bloom in August. In the nurseries, which were kept well stocked and from which the public demand for plants is supplied, several new and rare plants were propagated, notably, seedlings of *Luculia pinceana* obtained from trees growing in the gardens by means of artificial cross fertilization, and *Anemone japonica* imported in 1922. Receipts included a sum of Rs. 4,555 obtained by sale of seeds, plants and flowers at Ootacamund, and a sum of Rs. 1,906 from sales at Coonoor under the same heads.

Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras

155. The gardens of the Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras, are situated at Teynampet. During the year under report several seeds, bulbs and plants were received and sown or planted in the gardens, with satisfactory results. The new plants introduced into the ornamental garden were well established and, in many cases, growing vigorously. Among the fruit trees planted, the *Washington Navel* orange produced a fair crop, but the quality of the fruit has not improved; the *Avocada* pear is expected to produce fruit in the near future.

The 87th annual exhibition of flowers, fruits and vegetables was held in the gardens of the Society on the 6th and 7th February 1926. The flower show was a great success in the number and variety of exhibits, but exhibits in the fruit and vegetables sections were poorer than usual.

FORESTS

[*Report on the administration of the Forest Department for the year 1925-26; Statistical Abstract for British India—Forests*]

General

156. The general aims of Forest administration were briefly set out in last year's report, and in this report the important features of the development of forest policy are mentioned.

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In May 1925 the Government ordered the formation of local committees to report on the classification of the forests in the districts which are to be divided into two groups, "provincial" and "local." The "provincial" forests, being either remunerative or protective, will be managed by the Forest Department as at present. The Government will hand over the management of areas in the "local" forests to the ryots themselves in all places where panchayats are likely to work efficiently. The control of the special panchayat staff and of the reserves under panchayat management was transferred to the Revenue Department in July 1925. Details relating to these panchayats are given in a paragraph below "Forest Panchayats."

The systematic working of valuable forests is not usually possible without properly compiled working plans, which should include the measures to be adopted in removing produce and the operations necessary to ensure the regeneration of the forest crop. During the year a Conservator was appointed to control the preparation of working plans, and a staff of gazetted officers was deputed to assist him. This working-plan staff worked in close touch with the "cruising" parties of the Engineering Branch of the Department.

In order to co-ordinate the sales of produce and to equalize prices in the depôts of the Department, special work was undertaken in the Utilization and Economic Branch, the development of which was an important feature of the year's report.

An area of about 8,600 acres was mapped and "cruised" in the Sōmēshwar, Chenat Nāyar and Nalkūr reserves and on the Ānaimalais. The revised working plan for the Punachi Working circle in South Coimbatore division relating to an area of 2,612 acres was the one important working plan prepared by the special staff and sanctioned during the year. Schemes were also sanctioned for working two blocks of the Snowdon Working circle in the Nilgiris, and for the conversion of two plantations on the downs near Ootacamund from thickets of *Acacia dealbata* into a high forest of hardwood eucalyptus. The field work necessary

for the revision of the working plans for the Bolampatti Valley and the Walayar forests in the Palghat division was completed, and the drafting of these plans was undertaken at the close of the year. Preliminary surveys and inspections were carried out for the revision of other working plans.

Utilization development

The Forest Utilization Branch which was organized in 1924–25 realized a gross revenue of over three lakhs of rupees from its sales of timber. In order to popularize the mill-sawn teak and other Madras timbers, a sale depôt was opened in Madras during the year. "Cruising" was carried out in the Chenat Nayar reserved forest in order to ascertain how much saleable timber of each species might be extracted. Later on, the trees were felled and nearly two lakhs of cubic feet of timber were taken out; the amount extracted was within 4½ per cent of the estimated outturn. In 1923–24 the average quantity of timber extracted from this forest in a month was 5,600 cubic feet and the cost of extraction, including delivery at Olavakkōt, was Rs. 4-3-0 per cubic foot. In 1925–26 an average of 15,600 cubic feet per month was extracted and the cost was reduced to 14½ annas per cubic foot.

Exploitation of the Nallamalais forests was continued on a larger scale, and Rs. 8,106 were spent in the Ishukagudam range on felling and carting timber to Diguvametta railway station where a loading platform and crane were installed. To meet the demand of the local State manufactures 8,678 cubic feet of soft woods were sold by auction in Chelama range.

Olavakkōt saw-mill

The Olavakkōt saw-mill was able to convert wood as fast as it could be transported from the forest, and work in the mill greatly increased. The timber seasoning kilns worked well and there were no complaints about the quality of seasoned timber supplied to purchasers.

The demand for evergreen timbers is still rising. *Acrocarpus fraxinifolius*, used for cart shafts, *Polyalthia fragrans*, used for tea boxes and to a small extent for billiard cues, and *Elaeocarpus tuberculatus*, suitable for tea boxes, were especially

popular. The monthly sales increased from about Rs. 2,000 a month at the beginning of the year to over Rs. 18,000 a month at the end of the year, and the cost of production was reduced.

Russellkonda saw-mill

The saw-mill at Russellkonda closed on 22nd April 1925 was re-started on 28th November 1925. The quantity of timber sold amounted to approximately 42,870 cubic feet valued at Rs. 1,25,655. The sales for the year showed a slight decrease as compared with 1924–25, but this was expected as during the seven months of the year, when the mill was closed, orders could be executed only from existing stocks.

Four and a half miles of flume to be used for the extraction of reeds for paper-making were surveyed and the topographical survey of $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles was completed during the year in Tinnevelly. Further tests relating to the value of the paper manufactured from the eta reed produced satisfactory results.

Railway sleepers

Arrangements were made during the year between the Forest Department and the Railway authorities for the supply of railway sleepers. In the year 1925–26, 11,120 broad gauge and 5,527 metre gauge sleepers were supplied in August and 2,331 broad gauge and 13,066 metre gauge sleepers in March.

London agency

8,954 cubic feet of timber (*Terminalia tomentosa*, rosewood and teak) were sent to Messrs. Howard Brothers of London for sale ; this firm handled 11,122 cubic feet of Madras timber in the year, including that which remained unsold at the end of the previous year. 2,545 cubic feet of *Terminalia tomentosa* and 4,778 cubic feet of rosewood were sold during the year. The average selling price was Rs. 4–6–0 per cubic foot of *Terminalia tomentosa* and Rs. 6–7–3 per cubic foot of rosewood. The results were satisfactory, the local prices in India being about Re. 1 per cubic foot of *Terminalia tomentosa* and Rs. 3 per cubic foot of rosewood.

Supply of produce

157. The output of timber was 93,260 tons of 50 cubic feet each as against 99,080 tons in the previous year ; 31,100 tons were extracted by the Department and 57,900 tons by purchasers. Under

departmental extraction, the outturn from the Chenat Nayar reserve was doubled and a large quantity of casuarina poles were supplied from Anantapur to the Kolar Gold Fields. The increased output of fuel was due to the resumption of fellings by the Department in the Nilgiris and to the sale of coupes in Madura district. 34,417 tons of fuel were removed by the Department and 292,100 tons by purchasers, respectively, in the previous year. The total value of bamboos removed from the forests during the year was Rs. 4·13 lakhs as against Rs. 3·45 lakhs in the previous year.

Nearly 641 tons of sandal wood were sold for Rs. 7,52,804. The average price realized was Rs. 1,148 per ton ; last year's price was Rs. 1,264 per ton.

The estimated value of forest produce removed by free-granters and right-holders was Rs. 58,361 as against Rs. 71,139 in the previous year.

158. Of the total area of reserved forests in the Presidency, 13·8 per cent was closed to grazing, either throughout the year or for part of the year. Grazing permits were issued for 2,356,154 animals, and no charge was made for the grazing of 88,670 animals. **Grazing**

159. Natural regeneration provided seedlings in the evergreen forests of the Chenat Nayar reserve and in the Ghumsūr sâl forests. But in the Ghumsūr forests, the young crops in areas which are not clear-felled are attacked by what is known as thicket fungus and also by an insect which bores down the shoots and so makes it easy for any fungal hyptae to penetrate. **Sylviculture**

Sowing and planting were continued in the forests of Nilambūr, Mount Stuart, Gōdāvari, Wynaad, South Kanara, Tinnevelly and Mudumalai. In Nilambūr 81 acres were planted with teak and an area of 4 acres was planted with *Terminalia tomentosa*. The latter was successful, but there was a large number of failures in the teak area, and 6 acres were found to be unsuitable for teak. In the conversion working circle 21 acres were planted with teak, 25 acres were sown with *Xylia* 3 feet apart, 5 acres sown with rosewood, 2 acres with mahogany and 1 acre with **Artificial regeneration**

Hopea. Teak was fairly successful; the *Hopea* failed.

In the Amarampalam range 50 acres were planted mainly with teak, a few *Terminalia tomentosa* and rosewood being put out in portions. 192 acres in areas which had been felled in previous years were taken up and replanted, but for the most part unsuccessfully.

At Mount Stuart the area felled in 1925 was sown with teak and *Terminalia tomentosa*.

In Upper Gōdāvari, the work done last year appears to have been a failure.

Sixty-five acres in Kandikuppu reserve were planted with casuarina.

In the Wynaad, 40 acres which had been clear-felled in the Begur range were planted with teak (37 acres) and *Terminalia tomentosa* (3 acres). These plantations failed on account of unfavourable weather conditions.

At Mudumalai in the Nilgiris artificial regeneration of teak was tried on 60 acres, the area being divided and dealt with experimentally in several ways. Research work was continued during the year, the subjects investigated being method of regeneration in the Nilambūr teak plantations and measures to fight the insects defoliating teak trees in the Nilambūr plantations, in addition to the usual enquiries.

General administration

160. On account of the transfer of large areas of forests to the control of forest panchayats, the forest divisions in the Presidency were re-distributed into five territorial circles, the old Third Circle ceasing to be a territorial charge.

Thirteen square miles of reserved lands were finally settled under the Forest Act and about 106 square miles were added by recomputation of areas mostly in North Coimbatore where the areas worked out by the Survey of India were adopted. About 28 square miles were disafforested, chiefly in order to provide lands for the extension of cultivation in certain districts. The net result was an increase of 91 square miles in the area of the reserved forests which at the end of the year was 19,012 square miles. About 33 square miles were declared reserved lands, while 13 square miles of

reserved lands were excluded owing to the operation of forest settlement. The area of reserved lands increased from 310 to 328 square miles.

Works

The total expenditure on new works of communication amounted to Rs. 47,775 (Rs. 1,30,897 in 1924–25) and on repairs to Rs. 1,01,822 (Rs. 1,11,178 in 1924–25). The decrease in expenditure was due to the fact that the Engineering branch constructed 3 miles of roads during the year as against 18 miles in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 16,820 was spent on the maintenance of the new Mount Stuart Ghat Road and work was done on the extension of the road from Top Slip to Anaipadi.

The expenditure on buildings amounted to Rs. 1·42 lakhs ; the buildings constructed were not of great importance. The sum spent during the year on the construction and repair of wells, on the improvement of water-supply in forests and on the removal of rank vegetation amounted to Rs. 29,274.

Livestock

At the beginning of the year the number of elephants in charge of the Department was 105, valued at Rs. 3,38,500. Twenty-six elephants were captured, 22 were sold and 14 died. The shed at the end of the year consisted of 95 elephants, valued at Rs. 3,06,170. Operations for the capture of elephants, the cost of which was Rs. 9,862, were conducted in South Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, the Wynaad and South Mangalore.

Breaches of the Forest Act

The following table shows the disposal of cases under the Forest Act :—

	1924–25.	1925–26.
Cases taken to court	11,196	9,246
Cases compounded	19,536	18,510
Cases withdrawn	1,688	2,184

Of the 9,246 cases disposed of by the courts, 6,020 ended in conviction and 3,226 in acquittal. The increase in the percentage of acquittals was due to the fact that a large number of cases were compounded after being taken on file by the magistrates. A noteworthy feature was the large number of offences under "injury to forests by fire" committed in South Mangalore where there

was unauthorized burning in *unreserves* for "Kumri" cultivation. Rs. 2,68,404 were realized as compounded fees as against Rs. 2,65,310 in the previous year.

Protection from fire

The system of early burning, as a protection against fire, was continued in the more important districts and the results were on the whole satisfactory. It appears that the operations met with no opposition from the ryots. The area over which special protection was attempted was 4,703 square miles, of which 166 square miles were actually burnt. The expenditure on special protection was Rs. 35,600 as against Rs. 53,935 in the previous year.

Forest College

Twenty-six students passed out of the Forest College in 1926 ; of these 12 were from the Central Provinces, 6 from Bombay, 2 from Bihar and Orissa, 1 from Hyderabad, 1 was a private student, and 4 were Madras students deputed by the Government. One (a Madras student) gained an Honours certificate, 22 received Higher Standard certificates and the remaining 3 Lower Standard certificates. There were no failures.

Vernacular training schools for the technical instruction of the subordinate staffs were held in four circles.

Finance

The total gross revenue was Rs. 51·70 lakhs as against Rs. 55·70 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure debited to the Forest Department was Rs. 48·15 lakhs, and the result was a net surplus of Rs. 3·55 lakhs as against Rs. 4·52 lakhs in 1924–25. At the Forest College expenditure exceeded revenue by Rs. ·23 lakh. General direction cost Rs. 1·23 lakhs, and the Engineering branch Rs. 2·47 lakhs.

Forest Panchayats

There were at the end of the year, 595 panchayats managing 1,227 square miles of forest and paying a lease amount of Rs. 71,144, under the control of the special forest panchayat staff whose jurisdiction extended to all the districts in the Presidency where there were forest panchayats, except Nellore, Kurnool, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and South Kanara. There were also 28 panchayats managing 62 square miles and paying a lease amount of Rs. 4,992 under the control of Revenue Divisional Officers.

It is reported that there was a growing improvement in the protection of the reserves and in the interest taken by the ryots in limiting the number of cattle admitted, in enforcing the accepted grazing rates and in closing the reserves temporarily to improve pasture. A conference of the forest panchayatdars in the Presidency was held at Madras towards the close of the year. It had two important results, the starting of a banking union with the object of pooling the savings of panchayats and advancing loans to needy panchayats, and the publication of a monthly journal.

MINES AND QUARRIES (1925)

[*Report of the Director of Industries on the administration of Mines and Quarries for the year 1925*; *Statistical Abstract for British India—Mineral Production*]

Output

161. The principal minerals worked during the year were, as in the previous year, manganese in Vizagapatam and Bellary, magnesite in Salem, mica in Nellore, barytes in Kurnool and gold in Anantapur, but the output of these minerals showed in the aggregate a decrease as compared with the previous year, except in the case of magnesite and mica, the demand for which minerals was steadily increasing. The output on magnesite in the Salem district was 29,620 tons as compared with 24,427 tons in the previous year. The output of mica in the Nellore district was 881 tons. The deposits of manganese and mica in the districts of Kurnool and the Nilgiris, respectively, were also worked to a small extent during the period under report. Prospecting for asbestos continued to be carried on by the Mysore Development Syndicate in Cuddapah district. During the year a quantity of 319 cwt. 3 qr. valued at Rs. 4,800 was raised, though the Syndicate has not so far made any attempt to conduct regular mining under a mining lease. The deposits of steatite in Nellore, which were not worked last year, were again worked during the year under report, a quantity of 82 tons being produced, while the

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

production of the mineral in Kurnool was the same as that in the previous year, 4 tons. The quantity of gold extracted from the mines in the Anantapur district was only 288 oz. troy during the year as against 3,646 oz. in the previous year. The considerable decrease in the output was attributable to the fact that, consequent on the leases terminating, two of the mines were worked only for a part of the year. No diamonds were extracted during the year.

General condition of the employees

162. The general health of the employees continued to be satisfactory. Mines were inspected by various officers during the year. In the mines under the control of the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, in the Salem district, the average weekly earnings of a male labourer were Rs. 2-4-0, and of a female labourer Rs. 1-2-0. In the North Anantapur Gold Mines the average weekly earnings of a male labourer were Rs. 7.

Accidents

163. There were no accidents in the mines of the Nilgiris, Anantapur, Kurnool and Bellary. In the Nellore district there were two accidents during the year and in the Vizagapatam district one accident.

INDUSTRIES (1925-26)

[*Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1925-26*; *Statistical Abstract for British India—Industries*]

Loans

164. During the year the Statutory Board of Industries held three meetings and considered three new applications for loans to aid industrial undertakings. In last year's Administration Report reference was made to a loan of Rs. 4 lakhs sanctioned by Government to the Carnatic Paper Mills, Ltd. During the year under report, the Government passed orders on applications for further loans made by the same company, sanctioning a loan of Rs. 30,000 in the first instance, and subsequently a loan of Rs. 20,000, in order to enable the company to meet its liabilities and to maintain the mortgaged property in a satisfactory condition, pending the issue of final orders on the application of the company for a further loan of

Rs. 3½ lakhs and for the guarantee of an overdraft of Rs. 2 lakhs. Of the three applications carried over from the year 1924–25, Government refused the grant of loans on two applications, but sanctioned a loan of Rs. 18,600 to the Kallakurchi Co-operative Agricultural and Industrial Society.

Assistance to trade and industry

165. The work done by the Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information, the purpose of which is to provide general and statistical information on industrial and commercial subjects and to answer inquiries relating to commerce, trade and industries affecting the Presidency, was steadily increasing. Inquiries were received from the public and other Government departments. A number of reports were sent, as usual, to the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, dealing with the financial standing, business reputation and experience of firms and individuals who had asked for introductions for overseas trade.

Investigation

166. Investigations were made by the Department of Industries with the object of developing the lace and embroidery trade, the coir industry, and the match industry. The Government sanctioned a proposal for the conduct of experiments in coir retting at Ambajipet in the Gōdāvari district, which will be undertaken in order to demonstrate that, provided West Coast methods are adopted, coir fibre and yarn can be produced on the East Coast approximately equal in quality to that produced on the West Coast.

Research

167. After the retirement of the Industrial Chemist in March 1925, the Leather Research Chemist undertook the work of dealing with miscellaneous chemical inquiries in addition to those relating to the leather and tanning industries. Inquiries were received from the general public, analyses of water were carried out for the Engineering branch of the Department and of glycerine for the Kerala Soap Institute. The Leather Research Chemist also continued his researches on tanning and worked in the laboratories of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for about two weeks.

Government establishments

168. The Department continued to manage the Government institutions established for the manufacture of soap and glycerine, fluid powder and tablet inks, jams and preserves. The Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor, showed a loss of Rs. 17,205 for the year, and in February 1926 Government directed that the Institute should be closed, as the demand for the products of the Institute within the area which it served, or could ever hope to serve, was quite insufficient to absorb an economic output, and that its assets should be sold for the best price obtainable. The Kerala Soap Institute experienced keen competition during the year, and although the turnover was increased, the profits were low. The sales increased in value from Rs. 2,28,135 to Rs. 2,76,415, and the output was larger than in the previous year. The net profit amounted to Rs. 16,723. The Government Industrial Institute, Madras, was engaged during the year mainly on the manufacture of fluid ink, also ink powders and ink tablets. The value of the sales effected amounted to Rs. 21,520, less than the figure for the previous year, and the accounts showed a loss of Rs. 1,604 on the year's working. During the year the Government approved a proposal that the Department should carry on the experimental manufacture of printers' ink in the old glue factory building, Madras, as the average volume of imports appeared to justify an attempt to establish the industry. The Pallapālaiyam Sugarcane Crushing Factory was worked from July to October 1925. The reduction in output (935 pothies of jaggery as against 1,618 pothies in the previous year) resulted in a small profit of Rs. 160 as compared with a profit of Rs. 716 on the working in the previous year The success and economy of power crushing having been sufficiently demonstrated at Pallapālaiyam, the Government sanctioned the transfer of the Factory to the Pallapālaiyam Agricultural and Co-operative Society for a consideration of Rs. 6,500.

Weaving

The efforts of the five Peripatetic Weaving Parties were directed chiefly to the improvement of the preparatory processes of weaving, the

demonstration of the hand-sizing machines of the Department, the distribution of power-sized warps and the development of sericultural operations in the districts. Students are trained in weaving at the Textile Institute, where there is also a manufacturing section occupied with the construction and supply of improved weaving appliances. The value of the appliances sold during the year amounted to Rs. 12,826, a "record" figure.

Sericulture

The twelve acres of land at Coonoor, which were planted with mulberry in August 1924, yielded leaves suitable for rearing silkworms in the year under report. 10,510 layings of seed were supplied from the Coonoor Farm to Kollegal, where sericulture is an established industry, and 2,845 layings to other areas. Unfortunately, soon after the first crop in June, a white powdery fungus disease made its appearance and affected the leaves, thereby causing disaster to the silkworms fed with them. The Government Mycologist, however, conducted several experiments, and by the end of November the disease was brought under control.

Engineering branch

The work of the engineering branch of the Department is dealt with below. General information and advice on engineering questions was given free, provided that no local inspection was involved; where a local inspection was necessary, a fee of Rs. 15 was levied, in return for which advice was given; the erection of machinery and plant was undertaken for a fee of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the capital cost of the machinery installed; and the Department maintained six power-drills and fifty-four hand-drills for boring operations, also a number of pumping plants, some for pumping water for irrigation, others for well sinking. The total depth bored during the year was 27,087 feet as against 28,841 feet in the previous year; 369 applications, for hand and power borings were disposed of during the year. The Department also disposed of 57 applications for the use of pumping sets.

The Industrial Engineering Workshops were, by order of the Government, treated as a

commercial concern, and the year's working resulted in a net profit of Rs. 9,000. The value of the work turned out in the workshops during the year amounted to Rs. 88,500 and the work included a considerable number of repairs done to parts of oil-engines and centrifugal pumps for ryots and factory owners.

Industrial education

169. Five Government industrial schools—the Government Industrial Institute, Madura; the Leather Trades Institute, Madras; the Government Trades School; the School of Arts and Crafts; and the Government Textile Institute—worked throughout the year. A large number of students entered the Madras Government Trades School during the year—313, of whom 50 took the Mechanical Engineering course and 49 the Electrical Engineering course and a noteworthy feature was the steady improvement in the average educational qualification of students seeking admission. There were 494 pupils on the rolls of the School of Arts and Crafts on 31st March 1926. The number of industrial schools recognized by the Department was 52, of which all except two received grants-in-aid from the Government for maintenance, building and equipment. Several industrial scholarships were awarded during the year, including two State technical scholarships granted for the study of "Dyeing and Colour Chemistry" in one case and "Saw Milling" in the other case in the United Kingdom, three scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; five scholarships tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay; and sixty scholarships awarded to pupils learning trades in the recognized industrial schools.

Finance

170. The net cost of the Department of Industries was Rs. 7,50,916, as compared with Rs. 6,60,651 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous

171. Government passed orders on the report of the committee appointed to conduct an inquiry into the condition of jail industries and to submit proposals for improving their organization, and these orders affect the Department of Industries, in that the officers of the Department are to advise

the Inspector-General of Prisons on technical questions, that the specification of articles required by consuming departments is to be standardized in consultation with the Director of Industries, and that expert officers of the Department are to be deputed to act as referees in cases of difference of opinion as to the quality and of dispute as to the price charged for articles manufactured in jails.

172. The working of the Government Cinchona Factory shows a profit of Rs. 1·79 lakhs, after allowing for interest on capital. Last year's figure of Rs. 3·28 lakhs is exclusive of interest, which has been exhibited in the accounts for the first time this year. The fall in the gross profits was largely due to shortage of bark, but it is hoped that this will be remedied when the Ānamalai plantations come into bearing. Satisfactory progress was made during the year in the development of this new estate. Owing to the scarcity of bark some attention was devoted to the production of finer and purer salts with satisfactory results. The following are the details of sales during the year :— **Manufacture of quinine**

	LB.
Quinine sulphate	17,938
Febrifuge	11,002
Quinine hydro-chloride	920
Quinine bi-hydro-chloride	486
Cinchona bark	845
Quinine tablets	7

MANUFACTURES (1925–26)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, for the year 1925; Statement of Cotton and Jute Mills in the Madras Presidency for the year 1925–26*]

173. During the year 1925–26 twenty cotton mills were at work in the Presidency. The mills belonging to the A.R.A.R.S.M. firm at Choolai (Madras) and the Gōdāvari Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd., Pendalapaka, were not working during the year. The Madura Sowrashtra Sri Ram Mills Co., Ltd., did not work their mill after September 1925. The total number of persons employed in **Cotton and Jute Mills (1925-26)**

the mills that were working throughout the year was 35,059 of whom 24,186 were men, 5,855 were women and 5,018 were children. As in the previous year, four jute mills were working. The daily average number of persons employed in the jute mills was 4,479.

Other industries

174. The number of factories in the Presidency (other than cotton and jute mills) governed by the Amended Indian Factories Act was 837, of which 785 were classed as perennial and 52 as seasonal. The table printed below shows the number of persons employed in various industries during the year 1925. The daily average number of operatives employed in the factories was 71,991 as against 69,801 in the previous year:—

Class of factory.	Persons employed.
Railway workshops	17,163
Rice mills	12,866
Brick and tile factories	6,080
Coffee works	4,359
Printing presses	4,253
Sugar factories	3,367
Rope works	3,309
General engineering works	1,851
Tea factories	1,635
Leather works and Tanneries ...	1,556
Kerosene tinning and packing works.	1,393
Tobacco factories	1,172
Coach building and motor repairing works	906
Bone and manures and oil mills	776
Saw mills	580
Tramway works	519
Jewellery works	519
Metal works	367
Foundries (iron and brass)	348
Aluminium works	247

New industrial undertakings

As in the previous year there were not many new flotations, and several companies, especially industrial and trading concerns, ceased to exist. Five new cotton mills were registered during the year and among minor undertakings may be mentioned a match factory, one iron works and one soap and candle works..

Factories (1925)

General

175. At the beginning of the year there were 1,112 factories on the registers. During the year, 18 factories were removed from the registers, of

which 16 factories were dismantled and 2 factories ceased to be factories under the Act. One hundred and two factories were registered during the year, of which 20 were cotton-ginning factories, 16 were rice mills and 12 were groundnut decorticating factories. There were at the end of the year 1,196 factories, of which 359 were connected with the cotton industry. 1,121 factories were working during the year; the remaining 75 factories were closed and did not work. The daily average number of operatives employed during the year in the 1,121 factories that were working was 123,563 as against 121,114 in the year 1924. As usual, cotton spinning and weaving mills gave employment to the largest number. The total number of women and children employed during the year 1925 was as follows :—26,884 women, 4,006 boys and 2,422 girls. In the year 1924, 4,722 boys and 2,390 girls were employed in a smaller number of factories. The decrease in juvenile employment was probably due to the issue of a circular to the factory owners that children employed in any part of a factory come under the provisions of the Factory Act. In most cases children were employed in factories after the required certificates of age and physical fitness had been obtained.

Inspections

1,056 factories were inspected during the year, and in addition to these inspections 132 visits were made to factories which were closed at the time of visit.

Health and sanitation

The health of the operatives was generally good. Dispensaries and medical aid provided in factories were maintained throughout the year. During the year a doctor was appointed by the occupier for the benefit of the labourers working in a tobacco factory in the Guntūr district. The sanitation of factories was fairly satisfactory; twelve cases of violation of the rules were detected and the offenders were convicted.

Wages

The daily average rates of wages paid in factories in the Presidency during the year differed from the rates that prevailed in the previous year. In some cases there was an increase and in some cases a decrease. The average rates for factories in the Tinnevelly district, when compared with

the rates for factories in the other districts of the Presidency, show a higher pay in six classes for skilled labour and generally higher pay for unskilled labour.

Strikes

There were nine strikes during the year under report ; one strike was due to the demand made by the working people for the cancellation of a rule affecting the earnings of labourers for absence without leave, two were due to demands for higher wages, two to reduction in the rate of piecework, one to the dismissal of a fellow labourer, one to the conversion of a monthly system of wages into a daily system and in two cases the cause of the strike was not known. In two cases the demands of the operatives were granted, in two cases a modification of the demand was effected by arbitration and in five cases the labourers returned to work unconditionally.

Accidents

1,092 accidents occurred in factories during the year as against 986 accidents in the previous year. Fifteen accidents resulted in death and 210 accidents were classed as serious. Of the 210 serious accidents, 20 resulted in loss of limb, 4 resulted in loss of one eye, 16 in partial loss of limb and 3 in loss of vision in one eye. The greater part of the accidents occurred in railway workshops. Of the 15 fatal accidents and 210 serious accidents, 6 of the former and 50 of the latter were caused by machinery moved by mechanical power. The Government have framed a rule that a danger notice in English and in the vernacular of the district should be affixed in conspicuous places in every room of a factory in which machinery is in use. It is hoped that there will be an appreciable decrease in the number of serious accidents if the operatives observe the instructions contained in the notice.

Prosecutions

The occupiers and managers of 68 factories were prosecuted during the year. Three hundred and ninety-one cases resulted in convictions.

Welfare work

Certain factories other than those mentioned last year took measures to improve the condition of their employees. In a furniture factory in the Malabar district a co-operative society was started during the year. In a saw mill in the Malabar

district a private medical practitioner was engaged to look after the factory employees and free medicine was supplied to them. In a rice mill in the Trichinopoly district cloth was distributed among the operatives on Dipavali Day. In a tile factory in the Malabar district rice and kanji were given at midday to all women and children and to the men who came to work from distant places. In the Railway Engineering Workshops in the North Arcot district tiffin sheds were provided for the use of the work people.

LABOUR AND DEPRESSED CLASSES (1925-26)

[*Report on the administration of the Labour Department for the year 1925-26*]

General

176. The labour situation was generally very quiet. There were four strikes during the year, the most important of which was the strike of the weavers of the Mall Mills and the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Coimbatore, consequent on the announcement of reduction of wages. This strike resembled a *satyagraha* as the men turned up for work on April 25th and sat down beside the looms on the floor refusing either to work or leave the premises. They remained without food or water for over 24 hours but eventually the Collector persuaded them to leave under certain conditions. The final settlement of the dispute was made by the Collector.

Labour unions

177. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Union and the Union of the South Indian Railway Employees were the only two unions that continued to work actively throughout the year. They opened negotiations with the Agents of the railways to secure recognition. The Commissioner of Labour at the request of both parties took part in the negotiations between the Agent and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Union.

Depressed classes

178. Special staffs were at work on the amelioration of the depressed classes in the districts of Tanjore, East Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr, Bellary, South Kanara, Chingleput, South Arcot, Trichinopoly and the City of Madras. An Honorary District Labour Officer was appointed for Malabar and he commenced work in September 1925. The main lines of work were the provision of house-sites, assignment of waste lands for cultivation, lease of valuable lands, organization and supervision of co-operative societies, provision of schools, construction of wells, tanks and roads, provision of sites for burial grounds, latrines and pathways. Some caste people began to take an interest in the work of the Department and contributed towards its progress.

House-sites

1,931 house-sites were provided by the assignment of poramboke lands and 4,219 house-sites were provided by the acquisition of lands. In Tanjore district, the opposition to acquisition was not so keen as it was in the past.

Co-operation

The co-operative movement continued to make steady progress during the year under report. One hundred and fifty-one societies were organized and registered; 75 societies were transferred to the control of District Labour Officers from the Co-operative Department. During the year there were 1,171 societies under the supervision of the Department. The main purposes for which societies were organized were acquisition of house-sites on the easy payment system, loans for agricultural purposes, cultivation and reclamation of land, discharge of loans borrowed at ruinous rates of interest from money-lenders, collective bargaining, sale and trade, and relief for the persons affected by the floods of July 1924.

Education

One hundred and twenty schools were started during the year and at the end of the year there were 723 schools under the control of the Department. At these schools no fees are collected, pupils are supplied with books, slates and other school accessories. Three hundred and ninety scholarships and 135 fee remissions sanctioned by the Government were awarded. Under the Government scheme for awarding industrial scholarships to

pupils belonging to the depressed classes learning a trade or occupation in recognized industrial schools, or to selected apprentices serving properly arranged apprenticeships for a specified term of training, 110 industrial scholarships were granted. In addition, ten commercial scholarships were granted and stipends were paid to teachers of the fishermen caste of the East Coast to enable them to undergo training.

Free grants

The major portion of the allotment under free grants was spent on improving the sources of water-supply by digging new wells or tanks and repairing wells. A sum of Rs. 1,42,851 was spent on construction and repair of wells, provision of pathways and burial grounds, provision of sites for wells, tanks, schools and latrines and on sanitary improvements in the cheris of the Madras City.

Assignment of land

42,911 acres of land were assigned during the year to members of the depressed classes. Enquiries were made in some of the districts where large extents were assigned to ascertain whether the assignees were really making use of the lands and whether the figures of assignment really represented any advance in their economic status. The result is not disappointing.

Criminal tribes' settlements

179. There were in the Presidency eight settlements for criminal tribes and the total population in these settlements was 6,495. The health of the settlers was on the whole satisfactory.

Schools were maintained in all the settlements at the cost of Government and attendance was compulsory for children of school age. The industrial schools established under the Criminal Tribes Act, one for boys in Perambūr and one for girls at Nellore, continued to do good work.

SEA-BORNE TRADE (1925–26)

[*Report of the Sea-borne Trade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1925–26; Annual Volume of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency; Statistical Abstract for British India—Foreign Trade and Shipping; Review of the Trade of India; Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade of British India; Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India, 2 Vols.; Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India*]

General summary

180. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the Madras Presidency was Rs. 97·54 crores, an increase of Rs. 2·14 crores or 2 per cent, as compared with the previous year. Imports were adversely affected by the uncertainty of price movements in the home markets, especially in the case of piece-goods. There was, however, satisfactory progress in the case of exports. The prosperity of the rubber and tea industries and the large crops of groundnuts and cotton resulted in increased exports of these products. The fall of the franc (by reducing continental purchasing power) has tended to retard this progress.

Foreign trade

181. The total value of the foreign trade in private merchandise was Rs. 62·85 crores, an increase of Rs. 2·16 crores or 3 per cent as compared with 1924–25. Imports valued at Rs. 18·84 crores were 6 per cent less than in 1924–25, while exports increased by Rs. 3·35 crores or 8 per cent to Rs. 44·01 crores. There was a decrease in imports of cotton manufactures, sugar, cotton twist and yarn, metals, tobacco, paper and pasteboard, raw silk and dyes. The chief items that showed increases were motor vehicles, mineral oils, railway materials, woollen manufactures, instruments, spices and precious stones. There was a decrease of Rs. 128 lakhs in the imports of cotton manufactures and the decrease was shared by all descriptions of piece-goods, grey, white and coloured. There was a net decrease of Rs. 15·41 lakhs in the imports of white goods. An expected fall of the market and the high prices of Egyptian cotton, from which fine white goods are mainly manufactured, combined to restrict buying during the first

Imports

six months of the year. The decrease of Rs. 48·83 lakhs in the imports of coloured goods was brought about by reduced imports of prints and chintz, saris and scarves. These goods, principally coloured saris, were considerably overbought in 1924-25 and there are still large stocks of unsold goods in the bazaar. It appears that English coloured goods are still too dear for the Indian buyer who can get a coarser cloth woven locally from yarn dyed in India at a cheaper price. Imports of refined sugar (26,473 tons valued at Rs. 65·73 lakhs) decreased by 9 per cent in quantity and by Rs. 40·66 lakhs or 38 per cent in value, Java being the main source of supply. The increase in the world production of sugar has resulted in a very heavy fall in sugar prices. The record outturn of the Cuban crop, the rapid recovery of the beet sugar in Europe and the large yield of the Java crop all tended to lower prices. The abnormal imports of the previous year and the trend of falling prices restricted imports only to meet the immediate requirements of the market. Imports of cotton twist and yarn (7·69 million lb. valued at Rs. 148 lakhs) declined by 12 per cent in quantity and 19 per cent in value. Imports of certain kinds of grey yarn from Japan increased owing to the cheapness of the Japanese yarn. The imports of bleached yarn improved by 441,347 lb. or 46 per cent, the Indian weaver having found it more economical to weave with imported bleached yarn than with grey yarn bleached locally. The decrease of 727,304 lb. under coloured yarn was due to the cheapness of local dyeing of Japanese yarn.

Under metals, the decrease occurred mainly under steel bars and tinned sheets and plates. The decline under steel bars mainly from Belgium was partly attributable to anticipated reduction in prices on account of the depreciation in franc exchange and partly to strikes and dislocation of rail traffic in Belgium, while the decline under tinned plates was due to increased manufacture in India. Under vehicles (Rs. 82·30 lakhs) the increase of Rs. 32·14 lakhs was mainly under mechanically propelled vehicles. There were increased imports of motor cars due to price reductions. The

number of motor omnibuses, motor lorries and motor vans was more than doubled. The fall in the prices of motor vehicles considerably developed the motor bus traffic both in the city and in the mufassal. The increase under mineral oils (Rs. 11·89 lakhs) occurred chiefly under kerosene and fuel oils as a result of increased consumption of kerosene oil stimulated by a fall in prices and of a greater use of the fuel oils for bunkering and industrial purposes. The imports of railway plant and rolling stock expanded by Rs. 11·73 lakhs mainly under locomotive engines and tenders and construction materials. This reflects the replacement and renovation programmes of the railway companies.

Exports

The increase of Rs. 10·70 lakhs under rubber manufactures is due to larger receipts under motor tyres and tubes owing to increased demand commensurate with the increased number of motor vehicles imported. The increase of Rs. 3·42 crores under exports was caused by heavier shipments of raw cotton, raw rubber, seeds, tea, spices, cotton manufactures, grain, pulse and flour, tanned hides and skins and jute. There were smaller shipments of unrefined sugar, coffee, coir manufactures and manures. There was an increase of Rs. 117·82 lakhs in the value of raw cotton exported. This was due to a large demand from Japan, the United Kingdom and continental countries for superior varieties of cotton consequent on the gradual cheapening of prices in sympathy with the price of American cotton, which had been a record crop. Exports of raw rubber increased from 84,256 cwt. valued at Rs. 74·82 lakhs to 108,736 cwt. valued at Rs. 144·43 lakhs, an increase of 29 per cent in quantity and 93 per cent in value. The chief feature of the rubber trade during the year was the violent fluctuations in prices especially in London and New York owing to reduction of stocks and an increase on demand. The total export of seeds increased by 13 per cent in quantity and 5 per cent in value. The increase occurred mainly under groundnuts and castor seeds. Nearly 94 per cent of the trade in seeds consisted of groundnuts which also made up 24 per cent of the total export trade

of the Presidency. The area under groundnut cultivation exceeded that of the previous year by 34 per cent and the outturn by 25 per cent. The quantity of castor seeds exported (20,839 tons) improved by 36 per cent and the value (Rs. 55·60 lakhs) by 16 per cent. Exports of tea rose from 37·72 million lb. to 43·13 million lb. or by 14 per cent in quantity and from Rs. 301·03 lakhs to Rs. 353·38 lakhs or by 17 per cent in value. The increase was due to the good demand from consuming countries combined with the increased outturn of tea of good quality as a result of favourable weather conditions and improvement in manufacture. The exports of sugar declined from 20,025 tons valued at Rs. 47·48 lakhs to 2,292 tons valued at Rs. 5·93 lakhs owing to the large world production of sugar and consequent decline in prices. There was very little demand for Madras sugar. The fall in the export of coffee by 38,597 cwt. in quantity and Rs. 24·49 lakhs in value was due to the average prices of Indian coffee having risen from Rs. 86 to Rs. 91 per cwt. The total value of re-exports amounted to Rs. 32·30 lakhs as against Rs. 38·70 lakhs in the previous year.

Government transactions

182. The total value of Government stores imported amounted to Rs. 41·42 lakhs as against Rs. 45·08 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease under imports was distributed amongst stationery, flax and woollen goods, metals and hardware.

Treasure

183. Imports of treasure amounted to Rs. 8·24 lakhs as against Rs. 78·01 lakhs in the previous year. Imports of gold consisting mainly of bullion gold from the United Kingdom and Ceylon, and sovereigns from the Straits Settlements and Ceylon, amounted to Rs. 1·61 lakhs and imports of silver, chiefly made up of bar silver from the United Kingdom and Ceylon and Government of India rupees from the Straits Settlements, were valued at Rs. 6·63 lakhs. Exports of treasure were valued at Rs. 3·20 lakhs as against Rs. 42·16 lakhs in the previous year. The exports of gold consisting mainly of sovereigns for Ceylon, the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States amounted to Rs. 1·47 lakhs, and the exports of silver consisting mainly of bullion to Ceylon totalled Rs. 1·73 lakhs.

Trade by countries

184. The trade with the United Kingdom represented 35·55 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency as compared with 38·83 per cent in 1924–25. The trade with the British Empire was 53 per cent of the total trade as against 55 per cent in the previous year and trade with foreign countries 47 per cent, Europe claiming 30 per cent, Asia 10 per cent and America 6 per cent.

Coasting trade

185. The aggregate value of the coasting trade increased from Rs. 33·03 crores to Rs. 34·14 crores or by 3 per cent, Rs. 32·39 crores representing private merchandise and Rs. 1·75 crores Government stores and treasure. Imports of Indian merchandise declined from Rs. 19·17 crores to Rs. 18·62 crores and imports of foreign merchandise from Rs. 2·46 crores to Rs. 2·43 crores. Exports of Indian and foreign merchandise amounted to Rs. 11·14 crores and Rs. 19·66 lakhs, respectively.

Trade by ports

186. The value of the sea-borne trade on private account at the port of Madras represented 43·8 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency as against 45·3 per cent in the previous year and amounted to Rs. 41·76 crores as against Rs. 42·90 crores in the previous year. Foreign trade declined from Rs. 33·31 crores to Rs. 32·69 crores, or by nearly 2 per cent. The total foreign trade of the subordinate ports improved from Rs. 28·59 crores to Rs. 30·28 crores. Tuticorin continued to maintain its premier position among subordinate ports with 14·23 per cent of the provincial trade. With the exception of Madras, Mangalore, Cuddalore and Negapatam all the ports experienced increased trade.

Shipping
Foreign trade

187. The total number of vessels entered and cleared decreased from 2,878 to 2,835, while their tonnage rose from 3·59 million tons to 3·98 million tons. British vessels accounted for 72 per cent of the total tonnage and British Indian and Native craft 2 per cent. During the year the freight rates on general cargo remained practically unaltered, though rates on oil seeds and cotton fluctuated to a greater extent than usual. The rate on groundnut kernels to Marseilles, which was 27*s.* 6*d.* at the beginning of April 1925, dropped to 22*s.* 6*d.* at the end of May and to 17*s.* 6*d.* at the end of June

The rate rose to 27*s.* 6*d.* in August and to 32*s.* 6*d.* in September. Since then there was a gradual decline in rates ; in March the rate was 15*s.*, the lowest on record since 1914. The number of entries from coasting ports decreased from 16,299 to 16,055. The number of clearances to coasting ports was 16,044 as against 16,466 in 1924–25. Five vessels were built and registered during the year at Tuticorin and Mangalore.

PUBLIC WORKS

[*Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras Presidency, for the year 1925–26*]

Administrative changes

188. In the Public Works Department, during the year under report a new circle of superintendence was constituted solely for the execution of works connected with the Cauvery-Mettur Project, the largest irrigation project in the Presidency, and the Cauvery-Mettur Project Division which was formed in the latter part of 1924–25 was detached from the Coimbatore Circle and added to the new circle.

A new division called the River Conservancy Division was formed in the Trichinopoly Circle, with headquarters at Trichinopoly. It comprises the conservancy subdivision of the Cauvery Division, the flood bank subdivision of the Trichinopoly Division and the No. III Subdivision of the Special Irrigation Division. A special division was also constituted for the detailed investigation of the whole Kattalai Canal Scheme and for the immediate construction of a canal from the south bank of the Cauvery.

Chief Engineer's office (Buildings and Roads) Consulting Architect's Section

189. The Consulting Architect's Section was as usual engaged in the normal work of preparing drawings and estimates for important buildings. Designs were prepared in the section during the year for the buildings for the Guntūr Hospital and the out-patients' dispensary attached to it, improvements to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital and Medical School for Women, Madras, out-patients' dispensary, operation block and

tuberculosis wards for the Tuberculosis Hospital, Spur Tank, Madras, and other works. The value of buildings for which detailed estimates were prepared was about Rs. 16 lakhs, excluding approximate estimates prepared for administrative purposes.

In the Deputy Consulting Architect's Section, the value of buildings designed, including educational schemes, amounted to about Rs. 59 lakhs. One hundred and six plans of buildings to be used in connexion with education were scrutinized during the year.

Technical Section

In the Technical Section, 122 estimates of the aggregate value of Rs. 226·77 lakhs were scrutinized. Of these, 68 estimates related to buildings, 19 to water-supply schemes, 6 to drainage schemes, 14 to bridges and causeways and 8 to roads. There were in addition seven miscellaneous schemes. Among the estimates scrutinized there were 35 estimates costing over a lakh of rupees each.

Electrical works

The Electrical Engineer scrutinized 288 estimates in the year. As many as 209 works were in progress and the expenditure on original works was Rs. 1·48 lakhs as against Rs. 1·22 lakhs in the year 1924–25. The total value of the Government installations in charge of the Public Works Department was Rs. 22·74 lakhs and the amount spent on their maintenance was Rs. 1·19 lakhs.

Civil Works (1925-26)

Works

190. The total expenditure on Civil Works for the year (works and repairs under all heads), including expenditure on deposit works but excluding irrigation works, was Rs. 82·75 lakhs as compared with Rs. 75·85 lakhs in the previous year.

Buildings

The total expenditure on the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, to the end of the year was Rs. 6·93 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 7·83 lakhs. The main blocks, already completed, were handed over to the Medical authorities in the year 1924–25, and the subsidiary works such as matrons' and nurses' quarters, maternity ward,

were in progress during the year. Good progress was made on the construction of the Medical College, Vizagapatam ; the pathology block was completed during the year. The construction of buildings for the cattle farm at Chintaladēvi was completed and the construction of the Government Secondary and Training School for Mistresses, Mangalore, was nearing completion. The construction of a hostel for the Medical students, Tanjore, was completed except the compound wall. A sum of Rs. ·48 lakh was spent on extensions to the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore, the total expenditure being Rs. 3·58 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 4·32 lakhs. Improvements to the spinning plant in the Central Jail, Coimbatore, and the construction of Police lines for A-1 and A-2 divisions, Madras, which are estimated to cost Rs. 4 lakhs and Rs. 1·51 lakhs respectively, were commenced during the year. The total expenditure on the construction of additional hostel blocks for the Rāyapuram Medical School to the end of the year was Rs. 2·71 lakhs against an estimated cost of Rs. 3·69 lakhs. The buildings for the Leper Settlement at Tirumani were made fit for housing the lepers and handed over to the Medical Department, the outlay to the end of the year being Rs. 3·89 lakhs against the estimated cost of Rs. 4·22 lakhs. At this settlement the buildings for the Mosque and Hindu temple, elementary school for boys and girls, inpatient hospital, matrons' quarters, wells and latrines, were completed during the year. The total outlay to the end of the year on the construction of quarters for the Armed Reserve Police, Trichinopoly, was Rs. 1·07 lakhs against the estimated cost of Rs. 1·67 lakhs.

Roads and bridges

The work of diverting road No. 11 at Murungapēttai and Kavanūr was completed during the year. The construction of a girder bridge across the Kallar was practically completed, the outlay to the end of the year being Rs. ·98 lakh against the estimated cost of Rs. 1·04 lakhs. The work of converting the old railway bridge over the Hagari River at Bellary into a combined road and railway bridge and the formation of an approach road

thereto was commenced during the year and partially completed. Improvements to the Cauvery bridge at Trichinopoly which were started in 1924–25 are nearing completion. The reconstruction of the Coleroon bridge, also at Trichinopoly, which was destroyed by the floods in the year 1924, is estimated to cost Rs. 13·78 lakhs. This work was begun in the year and an outlay of Rs. ·51 lakh was incurred.

Work-shops

191. The value of the work done in the workshops of the Public Works Department at Madras, Dowlaishweram and Bezwada, was greater than the value of the work done in the year 1924–25, and amounted in all to Rs. 6·35 lakhs. Mention was made in last year's report of the committee appointed by Government to inquire into the possibility of concentrating in two workshops all the mechanical engineering work now done in the workshops of this and other departments of Government. The report was received by Government during the year and was under consideration.

ELECTRICITY (1925–26)

Development

192. During the year under report there was considerable development of electric supply throughout the Presidency. The Municipal Council of Ootacamund and the licensees for Kanadukathan, Dēvakōttai and British Cochin were giving full supplies to the public ; the licensees for Bellary were giving a fairly satisfactory supply and the Municipal Council of Bellary had under consideration the question of taking over and running the undertaking, as the licensees were taking steps to wind up the concern ; the Municipal Council of Madura, in consultation with the Electrical Inspector to Government, worked out their scheme and invited tenders ; in Coimbatore town two private persons are supplying two small areas ; smaller supplies are given in Waltair, Pachamalai and Nellichery.

A new licence to supply practically the whole of the Chettinād area in Rāmnād was granted to the Kanadukathan Electric Supply Corporation in supersession of a licence granted to them in 1924.

Licences

Licences to supply electricity to Trichinopoly, Srīrangam, Rajahmundry and Mangalore were granted to private companies and persons ; the licensees were engaged in the preliminary work.

Investigation

In order to encourage local bodies to undertake the installation of local electric supply schemes, Government offered to carry out the investigation, designing and execution of such schemes for a small fee and to give financial assistance by loans.

During the year twelve applications for assistance were received ; three schemes were investigated by the Electrical Inspector and plans and estimates were prepared.

Madras City

The standard of supply of electricity in Madras City improved considerably ; additional sub-stations for general public supply were opened, additional plants were installed and the amount and area of supply was extended. The Corporation of Madras extended the electric lighting of streets throughout the City.

BOILERS (1925-26)

193. The number of inspections of boilers made during the year was 1,633 as against 1,521 in the year 1924-25 ; 1,400 certificates were issued. Fourteen certificates were refused on account of the defective condition of the boilers.

In addition to the boilers inspected under the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, ten boilers in floating vessels on inland waterways and ten boilers in floating vessels in charge of the Port Department were inspected.

The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 70,895 being the amount collected as fees for inspection of steam boilers and contributions from municipalities for the inspection of water-works machinery. The charges exceeded the receipts by

Rs. 4,503. This excess was mainly due to increased expenditure on account of the transfer of Boiler Inspectors' offices to the mufassal and the payment of rent for mufassal offices.

CANALS (1925-26)

194. As usual, navigation was carried on over the Dumagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Cuddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vēdāranniyam canals. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3·53 lakhs, which is an increase of Rs. ·43 lakh over the figure for last year, the increase being mainly due to the licensing and registration fees for Government vessels which are now shown as navigation receipts.

There was also an increase from the Kistna canals under "six weeks' licence fees" and "boat rent."

IRRIGATION (1925-26)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Irrigation*]

Gross expenditure and revenue

195. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works rose from Rs. 104·04 lakhs to Rs. 125·22 lakhs and the revenue derived therefrom from Rs. 282·54 lakhs to Rs. 296·37 lakhs. The area charged as irrigated was 7,412,879 acres or 303,331 acres more than the figure for last year. Productive works showed a return of 12·17 per cent on the capital outlay as compared with 11·7 per cent in the previous year and 9·05 per cent twenty-five years ago, i.e., 1900-1901.

Irrigation works

196. Works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are divided into (*a*) Irrigation works and (*b*) Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works, each class being subdivided into "Productive" and "Unproductive." The classification of a work as productive or unproductive is based upon the financial results of three consecutive years.

The capital outlay on "Irrigation works—Productive" (direct and indirect) rose from Rs. 10·12 lakhs to Rs. 28·63 lakhs and was incurred chiefly on the Cauvery delta system, the Cauvery-Mettur project and the Kattalai scheme. The last two estimated to cost Rs. 6·12 crores and Rs. 10·1 lakhs, respectively, were started during the year. In the Cauvery delta system the improvements to the lower reaches of the Cauvery from the infall of the Ayyavayyanār to the sea, the construction of a road dam between 14/7 to 16/1 of the Cauvery left flood bank above the Grand Anicut, the erection of new scouring sluices to the Grand Anicut and the construction of a bed regulator in the Cauvery above the Grand Anicut were in progress. Productive works—Capital outlay

The total area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 3,235,625 acres and 531,965 acres, respectively, against 3,191,298 acres and 468,134 acres in the previous year.

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 185·47 lakhs and Rs. 45·98 lakhs, respectively, against Rs. 178·59 lakhs and Rs. 47·04 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 91·87 lakhs against Rs. 84·18 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 12·17 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 7·55 crores as against 11·7 per cent in 1924–25. After deducting interest charges, the profit for the year was Rs. 67·79 lakhs against Rs. 60·83 lakhs in the previous year and the accumulated profits to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 25·58 crores. Compared with the previous year the gross revenue showed an increase of Rs. 6·88 lakhs. This was due chiefly to the increase in the extent irrigated both under first and second crop and to the decrease in the amount of remissions granted during the year. Revenue and working expenses (Productive works)

The capital outlay on "Irrigation works—Unproductive" (direct and indirect) was Rs. 0·83 lakh, incurred chiefly on the Rushikulya system and the Thippayapālem project. Unproductive works—Capital outlay

The area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 242,753 acres and 19,964 acres, respectively, against 262,418 acres and 23,311 acres last year.

Revenue and working expenses (Unproductive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 9·81 lakhs and Rs. 4·05 lakhs against Rs. 10·52 lakhs and Rs. 4·52 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. Of the net revenue of Rs. 5·76 lakhs the portion due to improvements was Rs. 4·13 lakhs. After deducting interest charges the deficit for the year was Rs. 9·02 lakhs.

Remissions

The remissions granted under "Productive" and "Unproductive" works were Rs. 1,55,226 and Rs. 15,571, respectively, against Rs. 5,44,492 and Rs. 12,107 in 1924–25. The areas affected were mainly the Gōdāvari and the Kistna delta systems.

Navigation works—Unproductive

197. There were three works under this class, viz., the Ganjām-Gōpālpūr canal, the Buckingham canal and the Vēdāranniyam canal. The gross receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 78,883 and Rs. 3,41,221, respectively, against Rs. 81,574 and Rs. 3,34,931 last year. There was thus a loss of Rs. 2,62,338 to Government on the working of the canals against Rs. 2,53,357 in 1924–25.

Irrigation works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

198. The outlay on this class of works, including that incurred by Civil officers and accounted for by the Civil Department, was Rs. 33·30 lakhs as against Rs. 35·70 lakhs in the previous year.

The area charged as irrigated rose from 3,164,197 acres to 3,382,572 acres, and the revenue, inclusive of the amount collected by the Public Works Department, was Rs. 99·74 lakhs against Rs. 92·03 lakhs last year.

Tank Restoration Scheme

The total area coming within the scope of the Tank Restoration Scheme investigation was 102,500 square miles. During the year, 255 square miles were investigated, bringing the total to 85,195 square miles. No new minor basins were entered upon during the year. Works were completed for 80,760 square miles of the area investigated, were in progress for 3,328 square miles and were yet to be begun in the remaining 1,107 square miles. Estimates valued at Rs. 3·47 lakhs for Government works were sanctioned, this being an increase of Rs. ·58 lakh over last year's figures. The total

amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations up to the end of the year was Rs. 171·16 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 3·17 lakhs or Rs. 4·23 lakhs, including percentage charges.

199. The outlay incurred on these works rose from Rs. 6·02 lakhs to Rs. 12·38 lakhs, but the revenue fell from Rs. 0·58 lakh to Rs. 0·56 lakh. Navigation, embankment and drainage works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

200. The Bellary West Canal project was under the consideration of Government. The estimate for improvements to the Girisola channel in the Ganjām district was completed. Proposals were under consideration for fitting higher shutters to the Gōdāvari anicut for improving the supply under the system. The Pōlavaram island project estimated to cost Rs. 18·55 lakhs was sanctioned. An estimate for a similar project in the Coringa island was examined and returned to the Superintending Engineer for revision. The Atleru and the Vengalapuram projects in the Nellore district were abandoned. An estimate amounting to Rs. 3·05 lakhs for improvements to the Viranam tank in the South Arcot district was sanctioned. Plans and estimates for remodelling the Arkenkotta and Thadapalli channels in the Coimbatore district were prepared and the revenue aspects of these schemes were being examined by the local officers. An estimate for remodelling the Kalingarayan channel was prepared and the proposal was under examination. Estimates for remodelling the Amaravati channels in the same district were still under preparation. The Lower and Upper Bhavāni projects were being examined by the Board of Revenue as regards the respective merits of the two schemes. Investigation of projects

201. A cyclone of unprecedented severity visited the West Gōdāvari, Kistna and Guntūr Cyclone and floods

districts in May 1925 and caused great havoc to buildings, irrigation works and floating plant. Prompt steps were taken to repair the damage. The Peddanayudu tank of Chennaropalem in the Kistna district breached during the cyclone and there was no irrigation under the tank during the year. The question of its restoration is under consideration. There were floods in the Tāmbraparni river in November 1925, as a result of which a large extent of wet land under the Srīvaikuntam anicut system was silted up and rendered unfit for cultivation.

Irrigation Advisory Boards

202. Irrigation Advisory Boards continued to exist in the Gōdāvari, Kistna and Cauvery deltas. The functions of the Boards were purely advisory.

Hydro-electric Development

203. Considerable progress was made during the year 1925–26 in the investigation of hydro-electric projects. The Government decided to retain in their own hands the development of the hydro-electric resources of the Presidency and, in pursuance of this policy, repurchased a concession granted to a syndicate in London to utilize the waters of the Pykara and the Avarahalla rivers in the Nilgiris. The investigation of the Pykara-Moyar project in the Nilgiris, the Pinjikave project in the Madura district and the Pāpanāsam project in the Tinnevelly district was completed and preliminary estimates were drawn up by a special officer. The cost of the investigation was shared by the Railway Board as the South Indian Railway is interested in the development of these schemes. Rainfall and stream gaugings were continued at the water-power stations for which hydraulic particulars were being collected.

TRAMWAYS (1925-26)

204. The Madras Electric Tramways is the only system in the Presidency.

During the year, 88 tramcars, 1 special car and 1 car for carrying road metal were in operation, the daily average number of cars in use being 66, compared with 63 in the previous year. The cars ran 2,096,942 miles and carried 15,510,007 passengers during the year. This shows a decrease of nearly two million passengers when compared with the figures of last year. This is probably accounted for by the growth of the motor bus traffic in Madras, and the company has during the year put 25 motor buses of their own into operation.

CHAPTER V

REVENUE AND FINANCE (1925-26)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Finance*]

REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL

(*a*) GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Revenue and expenditure

205. The following statements give the figures for each of the past two years of Central and Provincial revenue and expenditure as well as the capital expenditure on State Railways, Irrigation Works, Civil Works, etc., not charged to Revenue, but excluding expenditure on such heads as Army, and Posts and Telegraphs :—

A.—Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.	
	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
I. Customs	3,34,32,054	3,68,69,253	...	...
II. Taxes on Income	1,20,99,555	1,37,11,017	1,56,810	4,27,084
III. Salt	1,59,01,726	1,47,59,343	...	...
IV. Opium	12,85,095	5,98,479	...	...
V. Land Revenue	...	...	7,40,19,608	7,70,70,273
VI. Excise	...	...	4,90,14,108	4,94,34,934
VII. Stamps—				
A. Non-Judicial	...	...	97,76,473	99,31,471
B. Judicial	...	...	1,43,74,801	1,45,76,814
VIII. Forest	...	...	55,73,761	51,81,359
IX. Registration	...	...	37,89,867	38,60,432
X. Tributes from Indian States	9,96,519	9,96,519	...	...
XI. State Railways—				
Gross receipts	13,10,01,559	13,66,24,451	...	...
Deduct—Working expenses	7,93,59,187	8,84,51,519	...	...
Net receipts	5,16,42,372	4,81,72,932	...	...
XII. Subsidized Companies ...	235	34	...	...

A.—*Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts*—cont.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.	
	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
XIII. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are kept	...	...	(—) 37,58,730	(—) 35,78,605
XIV. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which no capital accounts are kept ...	...	...	1,19,001	1,22,151
XVI. Interest	*7,63,871	7,41,787	12,80,026	16,20,883
XVII. Administration of Justice.	...	...	13,76,122	12,20,514
XVIII. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	7,58,750	8,08,741
XIX. Police	...	...	9,24,581	10,09,502
XX. Ports and Pilotage ...	14	...	...	...
XXI. Education	...	...	6,57,113	6,30,517
XXII. Medical	...	...	3,61,574	3,07,268
XXIII. Public Health	3,044	...	37,509	1,00,375
XXIV. Agriculture	5,092	...	2,74,873	2,69,487
XXV. Industries	...	...	13,71,594	11,13,130
XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments	2,96,881	3,47,740	3,88,906	4,41,275
XXVII. Currency	9,476	13,983	...	...
XXX. Civil Works	31,169	43,162	5,92,275	9,67,457
XXXIII. Receipts in aid of Superannuation	1,67,094	2,01,549	7,17,081	6,35,041
XXXIV. Stationery and Printing ...	3,251	14,676	2,46,329	* 2,55,836
XXXV. Miscellaneous	(—) 1,32,736	(—) 2,70,694	5,90,656	9,18,912
XL. Extraordinary Receipts ...	...	...	...	17,90,635
Total (*a*) ...	12,05,00,612	11,62,00,385	16,26,43,088	16,02,95,536
Contribution to the Central Government by Provincial Government	3,48,00,000	2,21,98,000	(—)3,48,00,000	(—)2,21,98,000
Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments	(—) 60,070	37,830	60,070	37,830
Total including (*a*) ...	15,52,40,542	13,83,36,565	12,79,03,158	14,71,35,366
Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt	...	...	21,55,564	30,27,448
Suspense Accounts ...	...	14,80,225	...	1,89,622
Famine Insurance Fund.	...	...	4,52,424	7,16,512
Loans and advances by Provincial Government	...	...	21,91,969	37,96,691
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments	21,50,974	12,66,15,602	1,30,00,000	...
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund—Government of India ...	...	...	...	13,55,06,602
Grand Total ...	15,73,91,516	26,64,86,382	14,57,03,115	29,03,72,241

* Includes Rs. 791 being the revenue in England accounted for by the High Commissioner for India

B.—*Central and Provincial Funds—Charges*

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.					
			1924-25.			1925-26.		
	1924-25.	1925-26.	India.	England.	Total.	India.	England.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Customs	13,74,332	16,05,516	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Taxes on Income	10,04,810	7,83,557	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Salt	22,25,247	22,12,744	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Opium	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Land Revenue	...	...	37,40,200	47,632	37,87,832	38,30,202	46,126	38,76,328
6. Excise	...	...	26,72,117	26,878	26,98,995	46,70,420	25,353	46,95,773
7. Stamps	...	...	6,09,365	2,19,898	8,29,263	5,77,811	48,301	6,26,112
8. Forest	...	...	39,57,604	98,121	40,55,725	42,23,064	1,32,670	43,55,734
8-A. Forest Capital outlay charged to Revenue	...	...	2,90,581	...	2,90,581	4,15,987	...	4,15,987
9. Registration	...	...	23,84,009	...	23,84,009	24,75,405	...	24,75,405
10. State Railways	70,12,208	64,37,328	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Subsidized Companies	12,588	(—) 308	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Miscellaneous expenditure ...	2,25,837	1,18,102	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept ...	...	...	39,77,323	...	39,77,323	40,17,573	...	40,17,573
15. Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	39,88,078	...	39,88,078	47,31,730	570	47,32,300
15 (1). Other Revenue expenditure financed from Famine Insurance grants	...	...	5,035	...	5,035	5,132	...	5,132
16. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	59,618	...	59,618	79,782	...	79,782
19. Interest on ordinary debt ...	62,25,103	1,04,26,120	6,55,791	...	6,55,791	10,13,653	...	10,13,653
20. Interest on other obligations ...	24,72,704	26,89,428	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. Reduction or Avoidance of debt	...	...	21,55,564	...	21,55,564	30,27,448	...	30,27,448
22. General administration	64,125	38,125	2,17,88,553	4,50,373	2,22,38,926	2,21,18,716	5,60,502	2,26,79,218
23. Audit	5,99,533	6,17,423	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Administration of Justice ...	...	...	94,22,204	1,81,922	96,04,126	94,32,546	2,02,104	96,34,650
25. Jails and Convict Settlements ...	...	...	29,20,206	18,451	29,38,657	29,78,715	22,618	30,01,333
26. Police	...	...	1,03,51,270	2,75,232	1,06,26,502	1,84,21,075	3,66,403	1,87,87,478
27. Ports and Pilotage	(—) 5	2	36,070	...	36,070	34,032	...	34,032

28. Ecclesiastical	3,70,144	8,28,299	...	...	1,30,391	...	3,10,718	...	11,871	...	3,22,589
29. Political	2,07,431	2,17,667	7,35,869	8,522	1,71,25,667	...	1,86,04,404	...	1,40,116	1,87,44,520	
30. Scientific Departments	...	...	1,09,94,729	1,30,328	2,02,000	57,90,181	56,97,736	...	2,08,094	59,05,830	
31. Education	...	21,944	53,29,121	2,02,000	57,90,181	32,49,838	...	65,312	33,15,150		
32. Medical	2,6015	...	31,12,038	32,403	31,04,501	29,18,342	...	88,292	30,06,634		
33. Public Health	45,603	...	26,38,327	49,188	26,87,515	15,01,013	...	1,74,535	17,35,548		
34. Agriculture	...	...	17,24,241	72,543	17,96,784	14,88,065	...	38,680	15,20,745		
35. Industries	57,215	51,464	13,56,109	53,400	14,09,509	...	...	...	...		
37. Miscellaneous Departments ...	3,02,639	3,42,711	...	...	...	81,56,694	96,51,929	2,07,842	99,46,771		
38. Currency	1,29,319	1,35,406	78,30,074	3,20,620	...	6,23,185	6,41,567	...	6,41,567		
41. Civil Works	...	...	6,23,185	...	...	...	...	...	...		
43. Famine Relief and Insurance ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
44. Territorial and Political Pensions	2,81,975	2,60,541	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	2,87,218	25,05,705	52,93,081	3,58,141	56,57,122	52,65,087	4,69,177	57,34,264			
46. Stationery and Printing	37,020	40,000	18,90,544	2,41,217	21,31,761	14,40,425	2,54,467	16,94,892			
47. Miscellaneous	6,538	28,949	5,21,172	20,530	5,41,702	10,89,307	22,508	11,11,815			
52. Extraordinary payments ...	...	...	22,91,880	...	22,91,880	...	...	...	...		
Total expenditure charged to Revenue	2,20,76,110	2,88,60,135	12,70,04,868	28,85,605	13,04,50,473	13,30,71,822	32,35,481	13,72,07,303			
52-A. Capital outlay on Forests ...	...	...	8,21,277	...	8,21,277	...	1,20,217	...	1,20,217		
53. Construction of Railways ...	1,25,19,517	3,64,58,936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	0,71,234	...	0,71,234	27,04,650	,102	27,75,752			
56-C. Capital outlay on Industrial Development	...	...	1,05,004	...	1,05,004	1,97,982	...	1,97,982			
60. Civil Works	...	...	6,05,335	...	6,05,335	9,03,591	...	9,03,591			
60-A. Other Provincial works not charged to Revenue	...	...	— 7,77,509	...	— 7,77,509	...	...	...			
Total Capital Outlay ...	1,25,19,517	3,64,58,936	18,19,241	...	18,19,241	39,02,440	11,102	40,03,542			
Famine Insurance Funds	...	...	2,00,850	...	2,00,850	1	...	1			
Suspense Accounts	...	15,14,018	...	...	...	1,50,499	...	1,50,499			
Loans and Advances by Provincial Government	...	...	88,12,612	...	88,12,612	78,53,829	...	78,53,829			
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments ...	1,30,00,000	...	21,50,974	...	21,50,974	12,00,45,002	...	12,00,45,002			
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund, Government of India ...	...	...	...	...	...	30,27,448	...	30,27,448			
Grand Total (Disbursements) ...	4,84,94,626	6,68,42,089	14,10,14,946	28,85,605	14,39,00,150	27,50,41,041	32,46,583	27,88,48,224			

REV-ENUE AND FINANCE

Cash balance

206. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 102 lakhs in the Exchange Treasury and in the Revenue treasuries other than those managed by branches of the Imperial Bank of India, and closed with a balance of Rs. 75 lakhs.

(b) Central Revenue and Finance

General

207. The receipts on account of Central Revenue were less than those of the previous year by Rs. 1,68,79,987. The main cause of this decrease was the reduction of Rs. 126·02 lakhs in the Provincial contribution to the Central Government which had stood at Rs. 348 lakhs since 1921-22 under Devolution Rule 17. There was also a fall in revenue under the heads "Salt" (−Rs. 42·33 lakhs), "Opium" (−Rs. 6·87 lakhs) and "State Railways" (−Rs. 34·69 lakhs), but this was to some extent counterbalanced by increased receipts under "Customs" (+Rs. 34·37 lakhs) and "Income-tax" (+Rs. 7·12 lakhs).

The Central expenditure charged to Revenue was more than that in 1924–25 by Rs. 58,94,016, the increases occurring chiefly under "Interest on Ordinary Debt" (+Rs. 42·01 lakhs) and "Superannuation Allowances and Pensions" (+Rs. 22·18 lakhs).

Net receipts from State Railways

208. The decrease of Rs. 34·69 lakhs in the net receipts from State Railways was due to an increase in the working expenses of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway and the South Indian Railway.

Expenditure—Interest on Ordinary Debt and Superannuation Allowances and Pensions

209. The increase of Rs. 42·01 lakhs under Interest on Ordinary Debt is nominal, as it is due to a change in the classification of accounts. The expenditure of Rs. 62·25 lakhs in 1924–25 represents the payment of interest (Rs. 109·10 lakhs) on Government securities after deducting the interest (Rs. 46·85 lakhs) payable by the Provincial Government on the loans advanced to them by the Central Government, while the expenditure of Rs. 104·26 lakhs in 1925–26 represents the payment of interest on Government securities, without deducting the interest payable by the Provincial Government to

the Central Government, as the deduction is taken into account in the books of the Accountant-General, Central Revenues, from 1925-26.

The increase of Rs. 22·18 lakhs under "Superannuation Allowances and Pensions" is mainly due to the debit to the Central Government in 1925-26 of certain pension payments made at the Bangalore and Trivandrum treasuries from 1st April 1921 and 1st October 1923 respectively, which were erroneously debited to Provincial funds instead of to the Central Government.

Capital outlay on State Railways

210. The increase in the capital outlay on State Railways not charged to revenue is due to larger expenditure on structural works in the South Indian, and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways including lines under construction, namely, Shōraṇūr-Nilambūr, Villupuram-Trichinopoly, Virudunagar-Tenkāsi, Māyavaram-Tranquebar, Dindigul-Pollāchi and Nidadavōle-Narasapur.

Loans and advances by the Central Government

211. The opening balance under Loans and Advances by the Central Government on the 1st April 1925 was Rs. 1,67,35,630. No advances were made during the year. The repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 5,54,330, the items being Rs. 2,45,762 by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2,58,401 by the Madras Port Trust and Rs. 50,167 by the Tanjore District Board Railway. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 1,61,81,300. On the 31st March 1926, the sinking fund constituted for the loan of Rs. 14,30,000 taken by the Madras Corporation, held Government securities of the face value of Rs. 19,77,100.

CUSTOMS (1925-26)

Finance

212. The revenue receipts under Customs for the Presidency were Rs. 372·63 lakhs as compared with Rs. 372·15 lakhs in the previous year. The total disbursements of the Customs Department throughout the Presidency fell from Rs. 52,47,290 to Rs. 21,02,229.

The large decrease was due to the fact that in the year 1924-25 a sum of Rs. 35 lakhs was granted as a refund of customs duty on stores imported during a long period by State Railways worked by companies.

Offences

The number of cases dealt with under the Sea Customs Act and the Merchandise Marks Act was 1,851 as against 1,448 in the previous year.

SALT

Manufacture

213. The season of 1925 was unfavourable for salt manufacture. Untimely rains in April and May 1925 retarded the commencement of manufacture in all the factories of the Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr and Nellore districts, and the early commencement of the south-west monsoon brought it to an early close. The result of this was that the output of salt in the factories north of Madras during the 1925 season was 32 per cent below the normal production and 24 per cent below the production of the 1924 season. Nor were the factories in the southern portion of the Presidency entirely exempt from the disadvantages of the season, though here the situation was considerably relieved by the comparatively larger stocks of salt held at the end of the year 1924-25. The quantity of salt manufactured in the year was 91½ lakhs of maunds or 19 lakhs of maunds less than the quantity produced in 1924. Of this quantity, nearly 14½ lakhs of maunds belonged to Government and the balance to the licensees. The stock on hand at the beginning of the year was 78½ lakhs of maunds and the quantity imported during the year, mainly from Bombay, was 19 lakhs of maunds. The total stock of salt available for consumption was therefore 189 lakhs of maunds. The quantity issued during the year amounted to nearly 137½ lakhs of maunds as against 147 lakhs of maunds in 1924-25. The

issues in the preceding year 1924–25, were abnormally large owing to the anxiety of merchants to replenish their stocks after a year of restricted removals in 1923–24 consequent on the increased duty.

Prices

The wholesale prices of excise salt increased on the average from 3 annas 5 pies in 1924–25 to 4 annas 11 pies in 1925–26. There was a similar increase in the case of Government salt, the average price being 6 annas 3 pies against 4 annas 11 pies in the previous year. The retail prices at the headquarter stations varied on the average from 1 anna 1·9 pies to 2 annas 5·4 pies a Madras measure of 120 tolas. The prices in 1924–25 were higher and ranged from 1 anna 2 pies to 2 annas 9 pies a Madras measure.

Issues

The quantity of salt imported by sea, mainly from Bombay, fell from 1,877,985 maunds to 1,553,893 maunds, while that imported by rail from Bombay and Goa rose slightly from 321,693 to 333,078 maunds. The issues of locally manufactured and imported salt for ordinary consumption in the areas usually supplied fell from 13,759,475 maunds to 12,464,707 maunds. The quantity issued for export by sea to Ceylon rose from 50,000 to 385,410 maunds. There was also an increase in the issues of salt to the Travancore Darbar, the quantity being 501,214 maunds as against 399,846 maunds in the previous year. The quantity of salt issued to the French Government was 63,510 maunds ; and the quantity issued to the Fisheries Department was 255,888 maunds as against 345,990 maunds in the previous year.

Finance

The total receipts on account of Salt revenue were Rs 147·71 lakhs. There was a fall in the revenue compared with the revenue realized in 1924–25 in which year the issues were very large owing to the restricted removals in 1923–24 consequent on the enhanced duty. The charges in 1925–26 under the different heads were on a par with the charges in the previous year except under "Miscellaneous." The increased expenditure under "Miscellaneous" is due to compensation paid to licensees on account of the closure of some factories. The charges for establishment of the

separate Salt Department continued to be less than the charges debited to "Salt" in the old combined department.

INCOME-TAX.

Administrative changes

214. By April 1925 the new department had taken over the income-tax administration of the whole of the Presidency. The following administrative changes were introduced during the year. The Trichinopoly district was transferred from the Southern Range to the Western Range, and the Tanjore and Negapatam circles from the Western to the Central Range. The Madura Circle which was managed by one officer with an assistant was divided into two circles—Madura (South) and Madura (North). The headquarters of the Rāmnād Circle were transferred from Madura to Sāttūr, and the taluks of the Rāmnād district were re-distributed between Sāttūr, Sivaganga and Kāraikkudi circles. Two separate offices were created for Kāraikkudi. At the instance of the South Indian Railway authorities the Income-tax Officer, Trichinopoly, 1st Circle, was empowered to assess all the employees of that Railway. Towards the close of the year proposals were submitted for the formation of a Special Salary Circle for the assessment of all Government servants under the audit of the Accountant-General and the Deputy Accountant-General, Posts and Telegraphs, Madras, and for the assessment by the Income-tax Officer, 4th Circle, Madras, of all the employees of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway in and outside the Presidency. These changes were sanctioned and brought into effect on 1st April 1926.

Trade condition

The trade conditions of 1924–25 upon which depended the income-tax revenue of 1925–26 were generally satisfactory. Though there was a substantial increase of revenue from money-lending in the Telugu districts the money market was tight in the South, and Nattukottai Chettis had great difficulty in securing repayment of their advances. The rubber boom of February 1925 did not have much effect on the income-tax revenue as the fall in exchange of the Singapore dollar delayed

remittances from the Straits. The exports of the chief products of this Presidency—groundnuts, cotton and tanned skins—increased substantially, while there was an excellent market for tea, tobacco, magnesite and mica. The earnings of the two railways were much larger than they had been in the previous year. The cotton milling industry suffered continued depression. There was a heavy fall in the profits from jaggery and sugarcane due to the increased competition of Java sugar. The lack of demand for turmeric from Germany, the higher import duties on cheroots and the import of potatoes from Italy to Bombay affected the income-tax revenue to some extent.

Financial results

The number of assessees rose from 43,706 in 1924–25 to 45,080 in 1925–26. The increase was mainly due to the discovery of new assessees who had escaped assessment. The demand under income-tax was Rs. 123·74 lakhs in 1925–26 against Rs. 112·48 lakhs in 1924–25. The demand under super-tax was Rs. 22·64 lakhs in 1925–26 against Rs. 20·43 lakhs in the previous year. The net collections during the year were Rs. 118·60 lakhs under income-tax and Rs. 22·55 under super-tax. The share of the Local Government of the income-tax receipts in 1925–26 under Devolution Rule 15 has been provisionally taken at Rs. 4·22 lakhs against Rs. 1·62 lakhs in 1924–25. The increase was due to the larger collections made in the year. The arrears at the end of the year were Rs. 1·73 lakhs under income-tax and Rs. ·35 lakh under super-tax against Rs. 4·13 lakhs and Rs. ·45 lakh respectively in 1924–25.

Refunds

The refunds in 1925–26 were Rs. 9·14 lakhs against Rs. 7·02 lakhs in 1924–25. The increase was chiefly due to the heavy refunds under section 49 on account of the reduction of the rates of income-tax in the United Kingdom. The total of such refunds amounted in 1925–26 to Rs. 4·27 lakhs.

Expenditure

The expenditure in 1925–26 was Rs. 7,83,491 against Rs. 10,04,810 in 1924–25. The larger expenditure in 1924–25 was due to the fact that a sum of Rs. 3,67,599 had to be paid in that year to the Local Government for income-tax work done by the revenue staff in the districts.

(c) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN CENTRAL

Provincial balance

215. The Provincial accounts opened with a balance of Rs. 30,55,438 on the 1st April 1925 and closed with a balance of Rs. 1,45,39,455 on the 31st March 1926.

Provincial revenues

216. The receipts on account of the Provincial Government, after deducting the provincial contribution to the Central Government, were more than those of the previous year by Rs. 1,92,32,208. The increase was due chiefly to the reduction of Rs. 126·02 lakhs in the provincial contribution to the Central Government. There have also been increased receipts under almost all heads of revenue, the principal items being Land Revenue (+Rs. 30·51 lakhs) and Extraordinary Receipts (+Rs. 17·91 lakhs).

The provincial expenditure in 1925–26 exceeded that in 1924–25 by Rs. 63,56,830, the main increases occurring under "Excise" (+Rs. 19·97 lakhs), "Reduction or avoidance of debt" (+Rs. 8·71 lakhs), "Education" (+Rs. 16·19 lakhs) and "Civil Works" (+Rs. 17·93 lakhs). These excesses have been counterbalanced to a small extent by short expenditure under "Police" (−Rs. 8·39 lakhs) and "Extraordinary payments" (−Rs. 22·92 lakhs).

Land revenue

217. The large increase of Rs. 30 lakhs under Land Revenue is due partly to the collection of ayacut inclusion fees (about Rs. 13 lakhs) in the West Gōdāvari and Kistna districts, which are of a non-recurring character, and partly to prompter collection of ordinary revenue owing to favourable seasonal conditions.

Extraordinary receipts

218. The sum of Rs. 17·91 lakhs appearing under "Extraordinary receipts" represents the reimbursement in 1925–26 to the Madras Government of certain pension payments made at the Bangalore and Trivandrum treasuries which were erroneously debited to Provincial Funds instead of to the Central Government during the years 1921–22 to 1924–25.

Taxes on income

219. Under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules, the provincial share of the income-tax receipts

amounted only to Rs. 1·57 lakhs in 1924–25. The receipts in 1925–26 amounted to Rs. 4·27 lakhs.

Excise

220. The revenue from Excise amounted to Rs. 490·14 lakhs in 1924–25 and Rs. 494·35 lakhs in 1925–26, thus showing an increase of Rs. 4·21 lakhs. There was, however, a change in the classification of accounts in 1925–26. Prior to the 1st April 1925, the cost price of opium supplied to this Government for sale from the Ghazipur factory was taken in reduction of receipts and only the *net* profit was entered on the receipt side under "Excise." Since 1925–26, the cost price of opium is shown as expenditure, the *gross* sale-proceeds being treated as receipts. If therefore for purposes of a proper comparison the cost price of opium in 1924–25, viz., Rs. 12·85 lakhs, is added, the total excise revenue in 1924–25 will amount to Rs. 502·99 lakhs, while that in 1925–26 amounts to Rs. 494·35 lakhs, showing a decrease of Rs. 8·64 lakhs.

For further information about Excise revenue, see under Opium, Excise and Stamps.

Stamps

221. There was an increase of Rs. 3·57 lakhs in the receipts for 1925–26 as compared with the previous year; and this was made up of Rs. 1·55 lakhs under non-judicial stamps and Rs. 2·02 lakhs under judicial stamps.

Forest

222. The decrease of Rs. 3·92 lakhs in the revenue under Forest as compared with the previous year was chiefly due to the fact that Nilambūr and Mount Stuart forests are treated as commercial concerns and brought under the rules contained in Chapter 2 of the Account Code from 1st April 1925, and that only the net receipts or the net charges of these concerns appear in the Government accounts from that date.

Interest

223. The increase under this head (+ Rs. 3·41 lakhs) was due to the fact that larger sums were advanced in 1924–25 as loans to cultivators and local authorities.

Industries

224. The decrease (– Rs. 2·58 lakhs) in the receipts under "Industries" is chiefly due to the fact that the Cinchona Department has, with effect from the 1st April 1925, been treated as a

REV-ENUE AND FINANCE

commercial concern operating on a personal ledger account and that only the net profit appears in the Government accounts.

Civil works

225. The increase in revenue under "Civil Works" (+ Rs. 3·75 lakhs) is mainly due to a special credit of Rs. 2·25 lakhs made up of (*a*) Rs. 1·53 lakhs on account of recoveries from the Travancore and Cochin Darbars towards the expenditure incurred on the first stage of the Cochin Harbour Scheme, (*b*) Rs. ·42 lakh on account of water tax refunded by the Madras Corporation, and (*c*) Rs. ·30 lakh, the adjustment in 1925–26 of the receipts on account of tolls not adjusted in the accounts of the previous year.

Miscellaneous

226. The increase in revenue under this head (Rs. 3·28 lakhs) is mainly due to the adjustment in 1925–26 of audit fees recoverable from Wards' estates for 1923-24 and 1924–25, and to the inclusion of special credits of Rs. ·19 lakh on account of the reimbursement by the Government of India of the cost of His Excellency the Governor's visit to Delhi in November 1924 and Rs. 1·61 lakhs being the cost of stores and animals of the bodyguard of His Excellency the Governor which was charged to the Local Government in 1922–23 and which the Government of India subsequently decided to write back to Central revenues.

Canal revenue

227. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3·53 lakhs, or Rs. 0·43 lakh more than in the previous year.

Provincial expenditure

Extraordinary payments

228. A major head, "52. Extraordinary charges," was opened in the accounts for 1924–25 for the record of special and large items of non-recurring expenditure, and a total sum of Rs. 22·92 lakhs relating to expenditure necessitated by the floods and cyclones was entered in the accounts for 1924–25 under this head. It was, however, subsequently decided that expenditure of this kind need not be recorded under a separate major head but should be shown under the appropriate service heads. The appropriate service heads relating to the expenditure of Rs. 22·92 lakhs shown under "Extraordinary charges" in 1924–25 are "22. General Administration" (Rs. ·26 lakh),

"15. Irrigation—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary revenues" (Rs. 16·66 lakhs) and "41. Civil Works" (Rs. 6 lakhs).

Excise

229. The increase in 1925–26 is mainly due to the revised procedure according to which the cost price of opium supplied to the Excise Department for sale is, since 1925–26, shown on the expenditure side instead of being taken in reduction of receipts. The expenditure for 1925–26 includes a sum of Rs. 18·42 lakhs representing the cost of opium purchased in 1925–26 and of the balance of stock on the 1st April 1925.

Reduction or avoidance of debt

230. The increased expenditure (Rs. 8·71 lakhs) represents mainly repayment towards the principal of the advances taken from the Central Government during the year 1924–25.

Police

231. The large decrease in expenditure under "Police" (— Rs. 8·39 lakhs) in 1925–26 as compared with the previous year is due to the fact that the accounts for 1924–25 include the expenses on account of the Agency Fituri amounting to Rs. 8·61 lakhs.

Education

232. The increased expenditure under "Education" (+Rs. 16·19 lakhs) occurs mainly under "Secondary" and "Primary" education. The increase under "Primary" education is due to the grants paid to a larger number of local bodies under the Madras Elementary Education Act, to the provision for the opening of a large number of new elementary schools, to an increase in the rates of teaching grants to aided schools and the payment of teaching grants to new schools.

Civil works

233. The increased expenditure under this head (+Rs. 17·93 lakhs) during 1925–26 is due mainly to repairs to roads and bridges necessitated by the floods of 1923–24, to large grants made for village communications and to larger outlay on buildings and communications.

Famine relief and insurance

234. Under Schedule IV of the Devolution Rules, the Provincial Government is required to make every year, with effect from 1921–22, a provision of Rs. 6·61 lakhs in the budget estimate for expenditure upon relief of and insurance

against famine. The amount is to be expended only upon the relief of famine or the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the prevention of famine or for the grant of advances to cultivators. Any portion of the amount which is not required for these purposes is utilized in building up a Famine Insurance Fund. The balance at the credit of the fund is regarded as invested with the Government of India which pays interest on it ; and it will be available, when necessary, for expenditure on any of the objects mentioned above. The opening balance at the credit of the fund on the 1st April 1925 was Rs. 14,25,883. In 1925–26, no advances on account of *takkavi* loans were made from the fund, while the expenditure on the other objects mentioned above amounted to Rs. 22,330 and the balance of the famine insurance grant (Rs. 6,38,670) was transferred to the Famine Insurance Fund. The amount of interest on the balances of the fund, recoveries of famine expenditure, repayment of principal of *takkavi* loans and the interest on *takkavi* loans credited during the year was Rs. 77,842. The closing balance at the end of the year thus amounted to Rs. 21,42,395.

Loans and advances by the Provincial Government

235. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local boards for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 2,95,06,696 and closed with a balance of Rs. 3,35,58,491. Advances to cultivators sanctioned in 1925-26 amounted to Rs. 28·53 lakhs as against Rs. 40·49 lakhs in the previous year. A loan of Rs. ·54 lakh was also sanctioned under the State Aid to Industries Act. Loans were also sanctioned to the Madras Corporation (Rs. 6 lakhs), the Cochin Port Conservancy Board (Rs. 15·50 lakhs) and the Tuticorin Port Conservancy Board (Rs. 5 lakhs). The loans granted to mufassal municipalities and local boards for the construction of bridges, markets, hospitals, drainage works, etc., amounted to Rs. 11·19 lakhs. Advances amounting to Rs. 1·65 lakhs were sanctioned to the Board of Commissioners under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act. Advances for the purchase of house-sites for Ādi-Drāvidas amounted to Rs. 5·54 lakhs

(the sum includes an adjustment of Rs. 2·45 lakhs wrongly debited to Central revenues previously). Loans to house-building societies and Kallar co-operative societies amounting to Rs. 2·99 lakhs and Rs. 1·40 lakhs, respectively, were also disbursed during the year. Loans amounting to Rs. 20,000 were also sanctioned to land mortgage banks.

Loans between Central and Provincial Governments

236. The advances obtained by the Provincial Government from the Government of India under rule 25 of the Devolution Rules to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure amounted to Rs. 88,61,000 carrying interest at 5½ per cent per annum, while the amount repaid to the Government of India amounted to Rs. 30,27,448 which is made up of Rs. 9,50,000 on account of the annual instalment in repayment of the outstanding balance on 31st March 1921 of the Provincial Advance and Loan Account, and Rs. 20,77,448 in repayment of the outstanding balances of the advances taken in 1921–22, 1922–23, 1923–24 and 1924–25 to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure.

Local funds

237. The following table summarizes the transactions of funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to the general purposes of administration (Central and Provincial):—

Statement showing the transactions of Local Funds for the year 1925–26

Name of fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1925.	Receipts.	Charges.	Closing balance on 31st March 1926 (cash).	Government securities.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Bhadrachalam-Nugur Special Fund	8,171 11 3	10,846 4 9	7,853 1 3	11,164 14 9	...
University Fee Fund.	1,21,744 11 8	6,25,826 4 8	5,76,102 14 8	1,71,468 1 8	...
Kumbakonam College Hostel Fund	4,233 5 8	13,677 14 3	13,089 8 0	4,821 11 11	...
Mrs. A. V. Narasinga Rao's College Fund.	7,276 14 9	42,515 1 2	39,994 9 9	9,797 6 2	...
Irrigation Cess Fund.	47,347 6 11	60,613 3 7	59,932 6 7	48,028 3 11	...
Cantonment Funds ..	27,064 8 6	1,32,147 7 9	1,23,708 3 9	35,503 12 6	...
Secunderabad Civil Hospital Fund ...	19,558 4 7	1,45,054 3 1	1,43,572 4 6	21,040 3 2	...
Secunderabad Local Abkari Fund ...	4,40,001 6 6	14,08,582 12 7	12,98,212 2 5	5,50,372 0 8	...

Statement showing the transactions of Local Funds for the year 1925–26—cont.

Name of fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1925.	Receipts.	Charges.	Closing balance on 31st March 1926 (cash).	Government securities.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Hyderabad Residency Bazaar Fund ...	1,42,240 15 11	1,72,155 4 6	1,51,532 8 3	1,62,863 12 2	...
Madras Port Fund ...	9,470 9 4	2,22,806 8 3	1,96,391 8 0	35,885 9 7	24,200 0 0
Minor Ports Fund ...	3,07,722 6 10	7,85,691 3 2	7,35,820 2 10	3,57,593 7 2	17,01,150 0 0
Cochin Port Fund ...	1,04,429 3 4	1,10,165 3 2	1,63,297 15 2	51,296 7 4	2,51,590 0 0
Tuticorin Port Fund.	64,644 7 10	1,30,570 0 8	92,369 4 4	1,02,845 4 2	56,000 0 0
Vizagapatam Port Fund	...	36,383 7 11	20,047 12 5	16,335 11 0	...
Tuticorin Port Trust Fund	4,19,716 11 5	9,10,989 7 1	7,31,510 0 7	5,99,196 1 11	12,000 0 0
Minor Pilotage Fund.	3,785 0 1	14,411 8 7	13,972 7 6	4,224 1 2	1,79,990 0 0
Landing and Shipping Dues Fund ...	7,73,480 14 7	27,09,951 14 9	24,16,412 5 11	10,67,020 7 5	12,80,140 0 0
Madras Coast Lights Fund	1,36,421 7 4	3,03,576 0 8	2,00,069 15 2	2,39,927 8 10	2,95,000 0 0
Lightkeepers' Recreation and Benefit Fund ...	4,183 0 11	4,687 7 4	5,742 11 4	3,127 12 11	10,000 0 0
Tuticorin Port Trust Provident Fund ...	...	157 11 0	...	157 11 0	...

238. For information about Local Funds constituted under Act V of 1884, see supra Chapter III—Local Boards Administration.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES

239. See supra Chapter III—Protection—Municipal Administration (Mufassal), and Municipal Administration (City of Madras).

OPIUM, EXCISE AND STAMPS

[*Administration Report of the Madras Excise Department for the year 1925–26; Administration Report on Stamps for the year 1925–26*]

Opium

240. The consumption of opium during the year amounted to 35,594 seers. In spite of the increase in the issue price of opium, the consumption exceeded the consumption in 1924–25 by 636 seers; the increase was noticeable in the districts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam, East Gōdāvari, Madras, Tinnevelly, Nellore, and Tanjore.

Six hundred and four shops were sold by auction during the year. The revenue derived from opium in the year under report amounted to Rs. 42·19 lakhs, of which Rs. 9·52 lakhs represented the shop rentals. The apparent large increase in revenue (it was Rs. 26·62 lakhs in the previous year) is due to the fact that, under the revised procedure adopted by the Government of India, the cost price of opium supplied by them to this Presidency is paid for by the Local Government as soon as the opium is sent out from the Ghazipur Factory and the full issue price charged to shopkeepers is credited to Provincial revenues instead of duty alone as in previous years. Revenue

The number of convictions under the Opium Act fell from 183 to 170, but the value of confiscated articles increased to Rs. 5,778. The one important feature of the year was the detection of a case of illicit cultivation of poppy by a Badaga at Kappali on the Nilgiris. Offences

241. There were no changes in the areas for the country supply of arrack nor in the rates of cost price allowed. From 1st October 1925, however, the contract distillery system in force in the Gunupur taluk of the Vizagapatam Agency was replaced by the central distillery system under which mahua liquor was supplied to that area. During the year the consumption of country spirits was very low, 1,373,003 proof gallons as against 1,462,118 proof gallons in 1924–25, and the number of gallons was the lowest recorded in any year since 1912–13. But, unfortunately, there were 2,208 cases of illicit distillation of country spirits and kindred offences, as compared with 2,131 cases in 1924–25 and 1,197 cases for 1914–15. The restrictive measures adopted by Government in furtherance of temperance contributed to the decrease in consumption. The experiment of closing arrack shops in two taluks of the Tanjore district, one taluk in the Rāmnād district, one taluk in the Tinnevelly district and one taluk in the Salem district, these taluks being toddy-drinking areas, was continued during the year. The prohibition experiment on the Nilgiris, under which the sale of liquor of any kind to any Excise Country spirits

member of the hill tribes is prohibited except on a certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner, was also continued. The issue strength of country spirits was reduced from 35° u.p. to 38° u.p. in nine districts, but the rates of duty were the same.

Revenue

The number of shops licensed for the retail vend of country spirits fell from 5,815 to 5,788 ; the reduction in the number of shops was mainly due to the closure of a number of petty shops in the Malabar district. The total revenue derived from country spirits fell from Rs. 204·60 lakhs to Rs. 195·28 lakhs, the decrease being made up of a decrease of Rs. 2·81 lakhs under rentals and of Rs. 6·51 lakhs under duty.

Agency tracts

The system of supply of liquor in the Agency tracts continued unaltered except in the Gunupur taluk as mentioned above. Under the system introduced into the Gunupur taluk, mahua liquor is manufactured in a distillery at Kapaguda and supplied to the shops through three depots. The consumption of mahua arrack amounted to 36,240 gallons. Under the outstill system, 90 combined shops and stills in the Vizagapatam Agency were sold for Rs. 2,66,730.

Toddy

242. The rates of tree-tax, for trees tapped for toddy, for the lease commencing from 1st October 1925, were raised by 25 per cent in the districts of East Gōdāvari, West Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr, Nellore and in the tree-tax areas of the Agency tracts of the East Gōdāvari district. During the first ten months of the lease, 1,041,020 coconuts, 731,148 palmyras, 908,058 dates and 5,731 sagos were licensed for tapping. After reduction to terms of coconuts by the application of the formula 2 coconut palm trees = 3 palmyras = 3 dates = 1 sago, the number for these ten months becomes 2,111,272 as against 2,145,286 in the first ten months of 1924-25.

Revenue

Ten thousand four hundred and thirty-four shops were sold for the lease 1925-26 as compared with 10,432 in the lease 1924-25. The total revenue derived during the official year was Rs. 2,22,75,709 (in the year 1924-25 it was Rs. 2,27,55,433) composed

of Rs. 1,19,35,274 under rentals, Rs. 1,03,03,244 under tree-tax and Rs. 37,191 from transport duty on toddy transported from Hyderabad.

The tree-tax system was extended in the Agency to 17 villages in Nugur taluk where the renting system had been in force, and to 5 more villages of the Yellavaram division. Agency tracts

One hundred and nineteen sweet-toddy licences were issued in the Pōlavaram division, the total number of trees tapped being 7,140. The jaggery industry is being carried on by the Gamallas and Edigas only in the Pōlavaram division and no instances of malpractices, such as drawing of fermented toddy under the guise of sweet juice, were reported.

The number of cases of illicit manufacture of toddy increased from 7,215 to 7,317. The majority of cases reported in Madras City related to the illicit manufacture of a liquor called "Sonti Soru." Offences

243. The rates of duty on locally made foreign liquor and on imported spirits remained unaltered during the year. There was a satisfactory decrease in the consumption of foreign liquor, which was lower in 1925–26 than in any year since 1912–13, except 1917–18 and 1918–19 when stocks were low and consumption was affected by the Great War. The reduction of duty on locally made foreign liquor, given effect to from 1924–25, did not result in an increase in the total consumption of foreign liquor, but enabled the locally made article to compete on more equal terms with cheap brands of imported liquor. 562,119 gallons of beer were consumed in 1925–26 as compared with 506,229 gallons in the year 1924–25. **Foreign liquor**

The Pharmaceutical laboratory opened at Madras by Messrs. Spencer & Co. for the manufacture of spirituous medicinal preparations continued to work during the year. Imports of spirituous medicinal preparations from the Mysore Pharmaceuticals, Limited, Bangalore, and from Bengal, increased. Spirituous medicinal preparations

The number of licences for the sale of foreign liquor on the premises was 29 ; 26 shops for the sale of beer for consumption on the premises were Revenue

REV-ENUE AND FINANCE

sold by auction ; and 168 " off " retail licences were issued. The total revenue derived from foreign liquor was Rs. 10,53,143 as against Rs. 11,83,428 in the previous year. The decrease occurred mainly under rentals of foreign liquor taverns and beer shops which were sold by auction.

Intoxicating drugs

Ganja and bhang

244. Twenty-three licences were issued for the cultivation of hemp drugs on land at Santaravur in the Guntūr district and forty-two for the cultivation on land at Santavasal in the North Arcot district. The outturn amounted to 493 maunds of ganja and 57 maunds of bhang at Santaravur and 230 maunds of ganja and 59 maunds of bhang at Santavasal. The existing method of storage of ganja was found to be defective at both storehouses, resulting in an early deterioration of the ganja in stock. The Agricultural Chemist at Coimbatore was entrusted with the work of scientifically investigating the causes of this deterioration and devising means to prevent it. There was no change in the rate of duty on ganja, but the duty on bhang was enhanced from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6 per seer. There was an increase in the licit consumption of ganja, resulting from the supply of better quality of ganja, and, probably, measures taken by the Mysore Government to check wholesale smuggling. The total revenue from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 13·39 lakhs. There were 88 cases of illicit cultivation of hemp drugs, including two important cases of cultivation on the Anamalai Hills.

Cocaine

Two hundred and forty-three licences for the possession and sale of cocaine and its preparations were issued during the year. The retail sales amounted to 2 lb. 5 oz. 185 gr. as against 3 lb. 9 oz. 91 gr. in the previous year. The decrease in consumption is only apparent and is due to the fact that the figures for the last year included a quantity of 1 lb. 13 oz. 343 gr. which represented the bulk weight of cocaine preparations and admixtures sold by the licensees in the City of Madras.

Stamps

245. Receipts on account of the sale of judicial stamps during the official year 1925–26 amounted to Rs. 1,45,76,814 ; and receipts on account of the

sale of non-judicial stamped papers amounted to Rs. 99,31,471. There was an increase in the receipts under both heads as compared with the receipts for the year 1924-25. Civil Courts and Collectors continued to levy duty and penalty, under Act II of 1899, on unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments; the amount so realized was Rs. 1,97,916. The total receipts for 1925-26 were Rs. 2,45,08,285, while the charges on account of stamps were Rs. 6,26,112.

CHAPTER VI

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DETAILS OF CENSUS

246. *Vide* pages 209 to 219 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1925)

[*The sixty-second annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for 1925; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 during the year 1925–26; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics*]

Population

247. The population of the Presidency according to the census of 1921 was 42,759,827 exclusive of Europeans and Anglo-Indians, who numbered 34,328. On the basis of the increases in the past between one census and another, the population in 1925 is estimated at 43,212,398, but the number calculated from the excess of births over deaths since the year 1921 is 44,670,547.

Registration of vital statistics

248. The Government approved of arrangements in connexion with the compilation of vital statistics, according to which the District Health Officers will supervise the work of compilation in Collectors' offices, or, if this is found in particular instances inconvenient, the returns prepared in a Collector's office will be sent unofficially with the village and taluk returns to the District Health Officer for remarks. These arrangements should promote closer association in this important branch of Public Health work between the Collector and the District Health Officer. Failure to register

births and deaths was common as is evident from the fact that the health staffs in districts detected 72,432 cases of unregistered births.

249. The total number of births registered during the year was 1,382,477 as against 1,430,858 in the year 1924. The slight decrease in the registered birth-rate for 1925 was more or less general all over the Presidency, only the Agency and four districts showing an increase. The birth-rate exceeded the death-rate in every district, except in Madras City and the Nilgiris. The registered birth-rate in rural towns rose from 34·0 to 35·0 per mille of population, while the birth-rate in municipal towns fell from 37·5 to 37·1 per mille of population. **Births**

250. The year under report must be regarded as almost as unhealthy as the year 1924, owing to the continued high mortality caused by cholera. The total number of deaths from all causes was 1,000,558; this figure is slightly less than the figure for 1924 (1,006,043). The district of Trichinopoly returned the lowest death-rate (15·9 per mille); the highest rate was recorded in Madras City (47·9 per mille). The increase in the death-rate for Madras City was due to the prevalence of small-pox and cholera in the city during the latter part of the year. The decrease in the death-rate for the Nilgiris was attributed to the successful campaign waged against the epidemic of relapsing fever. The proportion of males to females who died was 103·1 to 100. The number of registered deaths of infants during 1925 was 250,153 as compared with 256,423 in 1924; but the death-rate of infants was 180·9 per one thousand births as compared with 179·2 per one thousand births registered in 1924. Of the deaths of infants nearly 35 per cent occurred in the first week of life. The recorded death-rate for rural towns rose from 24·1 per mille of population in the year 1924 to 24·8 in the year 1925; for municipal areas the death-rate rose from 32·2 per mille of population to 32·3 per mille. **Deaths**

251. The number of deaths from cholera during the year was 44,815 against 51,971 in 1924. The **Chief diseases** **Cholera**

epidemic which prevailed in the cold weather of 1924 continued into 1925 and caused nearly 18,000 deaths in the first quarter of the year. The disease was practically confined to the southern and south-western districts of the Presidency and was severe in the districts of Madura, Tanjore, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and South Arcot. Statistical investigations carried out by the Director of Public Health disclosed that cholera epidemics tend to be most virulent every seventh year. As the disease was at its worst in 1918 when nearly 123,000 deaths were reported, it was anticipated that there would be a severe outbreak in the year 1925. The knowledge resulting from these investigations enabled the Public Health staff to be on the alert and to adopt preventive measures with the result that the epidemic of 1925 resulted in considerable fewer deaths than the epidemic of 1918. Since the introduction of the district health scheme, considerable attention was paid to the sanitary arrangements at fairs and festivals, and outbreaks of the disease in pilgrim or fair centres were rare. Prophylactic inoculation against cholera was carried out on an extensive scale in the Coimbatore and Salem districts.

Dysentery and diarrhœa

The number of deaths registered as due to dysentery and diarrhœa was 78,935 which shows an increase of 3,994 over the number registered in 1924. Dysentery and diarrhœa are diseases always associated with a low standard of general sanitation and it is observed that the registered figures for dysentery and diarrhœa closely follow fluctuations in the figures for cholera.

Smallpox

The number of deaths registered as due to smallpox was 20,478 as compared with 18,810 deaths in the year 1924. The death-rate was highest in Madras and in East Gōdāvari district. The fact that about 75 per cent of the total mortality occurred among children under 10 years of age shows that the children of the Presidency are still inadequately protected.

Plague

The number of deaths from plague (2,014) was the lowest on record since the disease first appeared in the Presidency. The towns most affected were Salém, Pollāchi, Calicut, Madura,

Mangalore, Periyakulam and Dharapuram. The benefit of inoculation was amply demonstrated by the fact that in a village in Bellary district where plague broke out 61 attacks and 15 deaths occurred among 269 persons who were not inoculated, while only 15 attacks and no deaths occurred among 1,531 inoculated persons.

Malaria

Malaria was prevalent in almost all the districts of the Presidency and was severe in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary and Salem.

Respiratory diseases

The number of deaths registered as due to respiratory diseases was 74,591 as compared with 64,782 in the year 1924. There is little doubt that pneumonia and phthisis were responsible for a large number of deaths under this group.

Hookworm

Investigations carried out by the Director of the Ankylostomiasis Campaign showed that the hookworm disease was more or less uniformly prevalent throughout the Presidency except in exceptionally dry districts such as Bellary and Anantapur, and that it can be eradicated only if permanent improvement is effected in rural sanitation. The Local and Municipal, and Public Health Advisory committees, after taking into consideration the great difficulties likely to be experienced in introducing a system involving a revolution in habits, recommended that the scheme to induce people to use sanitary latrines should be confined at first to one or two villages. The Madura District Board agreed to try the experiment in a few villages in that district and allotted the funds necessary for the purpose.

Child-births

252. During 1925, 3,788 deaths were registered as due to causes associated with child-birth. There is reason to believe that this figure represents only a proportion of the actual number of deaths.

Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act

253. Under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, which provides for the registration of births and deaths of Europeans and European British subjects and also of other classes such as Jews and Indian Christians, 59 births and 36 deaths were registered. These figures include 10 births and 2 deaths in Native States. One hundred and eighty births and 108 deaths of

Europeans and European British subjects were registered under the Madras City Municipal Act, the District Municipalities Act and the Cantonment Code.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1925)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for the year 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India —Emigration*]

General

254. The emigration of unskilled labour from this Presidency is confined to Malaya and Ceylon. The ports of emigration to Malaya are Madras and Negapatam. There was no emigration of skilled labour from these ports. In the year under report 78,174 unskilled labourers and their dependents left these two ports for the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States. There was a great increase over the number for the previous year, 48,188. Recruitment for Malaya was stimulated during the year by the demand for labour in the Singapore dockyards and in the rubber plantations. Conditions in the main recruiting areas, Trichinopoly and North Arcot, also contributed to the increase.

Emigrants for Ceylon left the country by the port of Dhanushkodi. One hundred and sixty-five skilled labourers emigrated through this port during the year. Of these emigrants 66 were professional entertainers who were assisted to Holland via Ceylon. There was a decrease in the number of emigrants to Ceylon from 100,250 in 1924 to 76,410 in 1925. Trichinopoly and Salem districts contributed the largest number of emigrants and, as usual, emigration was at its highest in the months of May, June and July, when the demand for agricultural labour was slack.

Health

255. The general health of the emigrants was satisfactory. The Ceylon Government took advantage of the quarantine period to treat 42 per cent of the recruits for hookworm.

Return emigrants

Nine hundred and thirty-five persons returned from Natal to South India during the year. Of

these persons 170 brought back with them savings amounting to Rs. 1,27,413. Four hundred and sixty-four persons returned from Fiji, of whom 209 persons brought back savings amounting to Rs. 1,30,060.

MEDICAL RELIEF (1925)

[*Annual report on the working of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1925; Report on the working of the Mental Hospitals for the year 1925; Annual reports of the Medical College, Madras, and the Medical College, Vizagapatam, for the year 1925-26; Annual report on the working of Medical Schools for the year 1925-26; Annual report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for the year ending 28th February 1926; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Hospitals*]

256. Under the scheme sanctioned by the Government for the grant of subsidies to private medical practitioners in rural areas, Government sanctioned the opening of 235 rural dispensaries up to the end of 1925, of which 183 were actually opened. The Government also undertook to pay the whole salaries of all Government medical officers employed in local fund or municipal medical institutions at taluk headquarters. General

Under the scheme for appointing honorary physicians and surgeons to the important State hospitals in Madras, honorary officers were appointed to the Government General Hospital, Government Hospital for Women and Children, the Government Ophthalmic Hospital and the Government Rāyapuram Hospital.

Certain district boards proposed the formation of district cadres of medical officers for employment in local fund medical institutions outside taluk headquarters. As the strength of the cadre of Government sub-assistant surgeons had been maintained mainly for the purpose of supplying medical officers for employment in the institutions of local boards, the Government decided that

local bodies might appoint their own medical officers to not more than 25 per cent of the posts under their jurisdiction.

Medical institutions

257. At the end of the year 1925 there were 959 medical institutions of all classes, of which 911 were general institutions and 48 were maintained for rendering medical aid exclusively for women and children. Nine institutions were closed during the year 1925 and 202 were opened. The Municipal Hospital at Ellore was taken over by the Government, with effect from 1st August 1925 as a result of the formation of the new West Gōdāvari district with Ellore as its headquarters. The Leper Hospital at Tondiarpet was closed and a settlement was opened at Tirumani near Chingleput. An ophthalmic ward of 30 beds was opened in the Rāyapuram Hospital for the benefit of patients in the northern part of Madras City and also to relieve the congestion in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital. The following table shows the number of institutions at work at the end of 1925:—

State-public institutions	59
State-special institutions (institutions for special departments of Government, such as Police, and special sections of the public)	26
Local Fund institutions	729
Private institutions aided by the State	29
Private institutions receiving no aid from the State	64
Railway medical institutions	52
Total ...	959

Relief

258. The accommodation provided for in-patients, male and female, in all classes of institutions was 7,748 beds. The number of indoor patients actually treated during the year was 149,988. Of these patients, the institutions for women and children treated 22,703 patients. Of the in-patients treated, 92,770 were cured, 27,461 were relieved, 17,131 were discharged for other reasons and 7,838 died. The number of out-patients treated was 9,283,281 in 1925 as against 8,502,474 in 1924. There was a steady increase in the daily average attendance since the year 1923. Among the various diseases of patients treated in all the institutions during the year 1925, the

following are mentioned as accounting for a large number of patients treated :—Diseases of the eye, diseases of the ear, diseases of the respiratory system except pneumonia and tuberculosis of the lungs, diseases of the intestines and inflammation ulcerative. 1,335,869 patients were treated for infectious diseases which in the order of prevalence were malaria, dysentery, syphilis, gonococcal infection, influenza, other infective diseases, tuberculosis of the lungs, pneumococcal infection of lungs, other tubercular diseases and leprosy.

The total number of operations performed in all classes of institutions during the year was 412,053. Of these, 29,850 were classed as major operations. During the year, 283,261 treatments were administered for hookworm as against 123,095 in the previous year.

Finance

259. The total receipts for 1925 amounted to Rs. 57,64,908. Government contributed Rs. 31,89,059, local fund and municipal contributions amounted to Rs. 21,29,300 and public subscriptions amounted to Rs. 1,09,083. The total expenditure for 1925 was Rs. 57,50,274.

Mental hospitals

260. There were 1,303 persons in the three mental hospitals at Madras, Waltair and Calicut during the year. The number admitted and re-admitted during the year was 349. Of all the persons treated, 165 were cured and the condition of 42 was improved. The principal types of insanity in the order of frequency were mania, dementia praecox, dementia (secondary or terminal), melancholia (other forms), insanity due to *Cannabis indica*, circular insanity and alternating insanity. The total population of insane criminals during the year was 177. The total number of deaths that occurred during the year was 63 (52 males and 11 females).

Buildings

In the Mental Hospital at Madras a block of twenty additional single rooms for Indian civil male patients was constructed. The Government have also accorded sanction for the construction of two wards for tubercular patients, a new dispensary and operation theatre, a new administrative block and new quarters for the nursing staff. At Waltair Mental Hospital six single cells for

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

filthy and noisy patients were under construction, and a new hospital building for males was taken charge of on 24th October 1925.

The scheme under which ladies visited the Madras Mental Hospital periodically worked satisfactorily.

The total receipts for the year were Rs. 3,87,682, and charges amounted to Rs. 3,79,929.

Medical College, Madras

261. The ninety-first session of the Madras Medical College commenced on 2nd July 1925 and terminated on 31st March 1926. There were 622 students on the rolls of the College during the session, of whom 63 were women students. The number of students who attended the University classes was 468, of whom 46 were women. Six hundred and thirty-one appeared for the University examinations (M.B., B.S. and L.M.S.) and 293 passed. The percentage of passes in the College department was 45·5. One civil assistant surgeon and one sub-assistant surgeon completed a course of six months in dental surgery training. Two civil assistant surgeons were deputed for training in biochemistry for two years from 1st September 1925.

Medical College, Vizagapatam

262. The third academical year of the College at Vizagapatam commenced on 1st July 1925 and ended on the 31st March 1926. Thirty students were admitted during the year and the strength at the end of the year was 78. One hundred and twenty students appeared for the University examinations (M.B., B.S. and L.M.S.) and 40 passed. Application was made for the affiliation of the College to the Madras University in the third M.B., B.S. courses. The papers relating to the affiliation were subsequently transferred to the Āndhra University for disposal. The Āndhra University granted permanent affiliation in the second M.B., B.S. courses.

Medical schools

263. There are in the Presidency five Government medical schools for men at Madras, Tanjore, Vizagapatam, Coimbatore and Madura, and one medical school for women—the Lady Willingdon Medical School at Madras. The selection of pupils for admission to the medical schools was made by a committee appointed by the Surgeon-General.

The Government approved the proposal to restrict the admission to students who had taken chemistry or physics, or both, as optional subjects in the school-final courses. The total number of pupils in all medical schools during the year was 1,065 as against 1,161 in the previous year. There was a decline in the strength of the medical schools at Rāyapuram (Madras), Tanjore, Vizagapatam and Coimbatore. The percentage of passes in the different classes in the medical schools was as follows :—56 per cent for the first year, 59 per cent for the second year, 61 per cent for the third year and 43 per cent for the final year. In the third-year class of the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women the percentage of passes was 92. Several prizes and medals were awarded to students during the year. The construction of buildings for the new medical school at Guntūr which is to take the place of the Vizagapatam Medical School was started during the year. The total expenditure in all the medical schools amounted to Rs. 3,27,106 and the receipts amounted to Rs. 65,390.

The Pasteur Institute, Coonoor (1925-26)

264. The number of patients who were treated at the Pasteur Institute during the year was 572, of whom 335 came from the Coimbatore district. One patient died during the treatment, two died less than 15 days after the completion of the treatment and four died more than 15 days after the completion of the treatment. Advice, but no treatment, was given to 155 persons. The virus was in its 973rd passage on 28th February 1926. The total number of patients who were treated at local centres other than Coonoor was 4,072, of whom 3 died during treatment and 25 after treatment. More than 98 per cent of the patients who had a full course of treatment were followed up three months or more after completion of treatment and it was ascertained whether they were alive or had died from rabies or other causes. Statistics collected for a number of years at the Pasteur Institute showed that of persons bitten by rabid animals on an average one out of 36 who were treated with anti-rabic vaccine and one out of 16 who were not treated died of rabies.

SANITATION (1925)

[*The thirty-sixth annual report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government and the sixty-second annual report of the Director of Public Health for the year 1925*]

Municipalities

Water-supply and drainage works

265. In the year under report no new water-supply or drainage scheme was brought into operation. Only thirty out of eighty-one municipalities and one union out of 548 are provided with protected water-supplies. Only one municipality has a complete underground drainage system, in one municipality an underground drainage system is under construction and one municipality possesses a system of open drains. One new water-supply scheme was taken up for execution during the year in Coimbatore. The Public Works Department was engaged in executing the water-supply schemes for Chingleput, Bellary and Coimbatore and the drainage schemes in Vellore and Madura. In Vellore the open drainage system has been in use for some years, but work was done on the sewage system. At Madura a large part of the sewage system was also in operation. In five municipalities improvements to the water-supply systems were being carried out by the municipalities under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer to Government. At Negapatam a reservoir for the water-works was being constructed and at Cuddapah, Tanjore and Coonoor improvements to the water-works were being undertaken by the Public Works Department. Several schemes were being investigated during the year and for several schemes, plans and estimates were being prepared.

Conservancy

In most municipalities, the conservancy plant was defective and of a very primitive type. Insanitary conditions prevailed in most of the municipal towns of the Presidency. Public latrines of all kinds numbered 1,923, an increase of 26 as compared with the previous year. Houses possessing sanitary conveniences numbered 170,949, which figure shows a decrease of 1,740 from the figure for the previous year. Only 38 per cent of all houses are provided with latrines and the number is slowly decreasing.

Rural areas

266. With the exception of a small installation in the festival centre of Srisailam in Kurnool

district, no progress was made in the introduction of protected water-supply or drainage schemes during the year under report. Conservancy arrangements existed in most of the villages included in the 494 unions of the Presidency but of the villages not included in unions only a negligible number possess conservancy arrangements.

Health propaganda

267. Propaganda work was done regularly by the health staff in all villages visited by them. The methods employed included not only formal lectures, lantern demonstrations and lessons in the village schools but also informal and friendly talks with the villagers. In many places the local newspapers were made the medium for the spread of information on public health and a large number of articles were published in the papers.

Health Week

268. The "Health and Baby Week" was celebrated throughout the Presidency in January 1925 for the second time. Committees were organized throughout the Presidency to arrange and carry out a programme for the week. Funds amounting to over Rs. 86,000 were raised by private subscription and local bodies also contributed towards the expenditure of the week, so that the total expenditure was over one lakh of rupees. On the whole the "Health and Baby Week" of 1925 proved a success.

VACCINATION (1925-26)

[*Report on Vaccination in the Madras Presidency for the year 1925-26; Report of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for the year 1925-26; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Vaccination*]

General

269. In November 1925, the Government declined to accept the proposal to transfer the administration of vaccination to district boards; the control of vaccination is still vested in taluk and union boards, except in the Nilgiri district.

The only lymph issued for routine vaccinations throughout the Presidency was glycerine lymph, and sufficient lymph for 2,216,038 cases (as against 2,224,080 in the previous year) was issued

by the King Institute, Guindy. Both the manufacture of vaccine lymph and routine vaccination were suspended during the four hot weather months.

The anti-vaccination campaign, mentioned in last year's report, was fortunately less active. The chief factors that retarded progress in vaccination work were—the difficulty to secure the vaccination of unprotected children in areas where vaccination is not compulsory; the reluctance of many local bodies to enforce strictly the provisions of law relating to compulsory vaccination; and the failure to maintain correctly registers of vital statistics and vaccination registers.

Operations

270. The number of vaccination operations performed was 1,965,026 as compared with 2,033,997 in 1924–25. The percentage of successful cases to the number of operations, the results of which were known, was 94·7 under primary * and secondary † vaccinations.

The percentage of successful cases was 37·9 under re-vaccinations ‡ as compared with 44·4 in 1924–25. A general reduction in the percentage of success for re-vaccinations occurred, but it must be remembered that varying degrees of immunity were encountered in the persons concerned.

The total expenditure incurred on all vaccination establishments employed was Rs. 5,49,109. The average cost of successful operations was 6 annas as compared with 5 annas 9 pies in the year 1924–25. The large increase in the average cost in municipalities (6 annas 8 pies to 8 annas 1 pie) was due to a decrease in the number of operations performed (239,430 in 1924-25 and 183,196 in 1925–26). In some towns where Health officers were not employed, the rate of successful vaccinations per mille of population was very low. During the year, the number of deaths due to smallpox was 14,498 as against 20,227 deaths in 1924-25. The mortality from smallpox steadily

* *Primary vaccination* is the vaccination of a person never previously vaccinated and who has not suffered from smallpox.

† *Secondary vaccination* is the vaccination of a person who failed to "take" the first time.

‡ *Re-vaccination* is the vaccination of a person already successfully vaccinated or who had a previous attack of smallpox.

decreased from the year 1922-23. In many villages, local revenue officers failed to report cases of smallpox promptly to the Public Health officers, and Government have issued instructions on this point to Collectors of all districts.

271. During the year, the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, manufactured and issued regular supplies of vaccine lymph, distributed bacterial vaccines, autogenous vaccines and sera for the Veterinary Department, and examined specimens and samples of water. In the manufacture of vaccine lymph, the average yield of pulp per calf during the year was 23·52 grammes, which is the highest average yield obtained at the institute. King Institute, Guindy (1925-26)

85,569 doses of bacterial vaccines were issued during the year as against 105,497 doses in the previous year ; the decrease is due to the fact that a much smaller number of cholera vaccine doses was issued.

In the institute 15,180 specimens were examined. A large number of specimens were examined for the Wassermann reactions for syphilis, and a large number by the agglutination test for the typhoid group. 1,009 samples of water were also examined. Samples from all protected water-supplies were taken and examined twice during the year : in addition samples submitted or called for under special circumstances were examined.

Samples of food were also examined, although there were no regular supplies of food to be tested for adulteration, as the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act (1918) has not yet been brought into force. Samples of the milk sent to the General Hospital, Madras, from the military dairy at Bangalore and samples of the contractor's milk supplied to the same hospital were examined. It was found that the samples of contractor's milk contained sediments of dirt, considerably more than the sediments found in the Bangalore samples.

Two permanent investigation units were working and a third was sanctioned in March 1926. These units were engaged in malarial surveys and other special investigations.

There was an estimated net profit of Rs. 2,88,631 on the work of the institute for the year.

CHAPTER VII

INSTRUCTION

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

272. *Vide* pages 228 to 244 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

EDUCATION (1925-26)

[*Report of the Director of Public Instruction for the year 1925-26 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Education*]

General

273. The intensive educational survey conducted as an essential preliminary to working out a comprehensive programme for the expansion of elementary education was completed during the year. The scrutiny of survey records was finished and reports on the survey of all the districts embodying the results of the survey were compiled. A list of school-less centres with a population of 500 and above was appended to each district report, the names of centres where aided schools were likely to be started being indicated in the report. The reports contained suggestions for the amalgamation or closure of superfluous schools, the opening of separate schools for Muhammadans, the improvement of indigenous schools and the provision of additional facilities for the training of teachers.

The Āndhra University Bill was placed before the Legislative Council in August 1925 and, after being passed, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council in January 1926.

The system of grant-in-aid for the medical inspection of boys, which was held in abeyance, was revived during the year and instructions were issued for the medical inspection of boys in

secondary schools, in the school departments of colleges and in training schools for masters.

The Government approved the issue of a circular permitting the adoption of the vernaculars as the media of instruction in Forms IV to VI of secondary schools and the Secondary School Leaving Certificate Board was directed to arrange for the examination through the vernacular of all candidates who receive instruction entirely in the vernacular during their high school course.

The Government decided that the half-fee concessions for which poor pupils of the depressed classes are otherwise eligible, should not be denied to them because of their conversion to Christianity.

Statistics

274. The number of public institutions rose by 3,544 to 47,853 and their strength by 155,914 to 2,261,609, the increases being 8·0 per cent and 7·4 per cent, respectively. There was a slight decrease in the number of private institutions as in the previous year. The number of public and private institutions, taken together, rose by 3,304 and their strength by 153,368. The percentage of those under instruction to the whole population was 5·5 as against 5·2 in the previous year.

University and collegiate education

275. Part II of Volume I of the Tamil Lexicon containing forms 34 to 63 was published by the Madras University.

The training in the University Corps continued along lines similar to those of previous years; athletic sports held at Bangalore in the presence of a very large gathering of Civil and Military officials showed that the Corps possesses a large number of very efficient athletes. Further proof of this was given at the Naval and Military Tournament held in Madras in February 1926, at which the Corps won four firsts, two seconds and one third out of nine events, each unit being limited to two competitors and all the Indian units in South India competing. The popularity of the Corps was evidenced by the fact that the colleges produced far more applicants for admission than could be enrolled within the numbers authorized.

There was an increase of four in the number of first-grade colleges for men in consequence of the affiliation in the B.A. courses of the Government

Victoria College, Palghat, the St. Francis Xavier's College, Palamcottah, and the Madura College, Madura and the opening of the Loyola College, Madras. The number of second-grade colleges for men fell by 3, as three institutions were raised to the first grade as stated above. The total number of students in arts colleges for men was 10,836 as against 9,813 in the previous year, of whom 499 students were undergoing honours courses and 34 post-graduate courses. There was a decrease in the number of students reading in second-grade colleges.

The following affiliations were granted during the year :—

New affiliations and recognitions

The further affiliation of the Noble College, Masulipatam, in Group (i) of the B.A. degree courses; the Sri Minakshi College, Chidambaram, in Groups (ii-A), (ii-B), (iv) Language Parts —Sanskrit and Tamil—and (vi) Sanskrit with Early Indian History of the B.A. degree courses and Branches III-A and B (History and Economics and Politics) and V (English Language and Literature) of the B.A. (Honours) degree courses ; the Bishop Heber College, Trichinopoly, in Group (iv) of the B.A. degree courses and in Branch III-A (History and Economics and Politics) of the B.A. (Honours) degree courses and in Branch I (Mathematics) of the B.A. (Honours) degree courses ; the St. Francis Xavier's College, Palamcottah, in Groups (i) and (v-A) of the B.A. degree courses ; the Madura College, Madura, in Groups (iv) and (v) of the B.A. degree courses ; the Government Victoria College, Palghat, in Part I, English Language and Literature and Part II, Groups (iv), (v-A) and (vi), Sanskrit and Malayalam of the B.A. degree courses ; the Theosophical College, Madanapalle, in Part I, English Language and Literature and Part II, Groups (iv) and (v-A) of the B.A. degree courses ; the Hindu College, Tinnevelly, in Group (i) Mathematics of the B.A. degree courses ; the Pittāpur College, Cocanada, in Part I English Language and Literature, and Part II, Groups (i) and (v-B) of the B.A. degree courses ; the St. Aloysius' College, Mangalore, in Groups (ii-A) and (ii-B) of the B.A. degree courses ;

the A.E.L.M. College, Guntūr, in Part I, English Language and Literature and Part II, Groups (i), (iv) and (v-A) of the B.A. degree courses. The Medical College, Vizagapatam, was affiliated in the second M.B. & B.S. and L.M. & S. degree courses. The following recognitions were also sanctioned:—The recognition of the Loyola College, Madras, in Groups (i), (v-A), (v-B) and (vi) of the B.A. degree courses and in Part I and Part II, Groups (i) and (iii) of the Intermediate courses; the further recognition of the Presidency College, Madras, in Branch V-B (Economics) of the B.A. (Honours) degree courses; and the Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, in Branches IV (Philosophy) and V-B (Economics) of the B.A. (Honours) degree courses.

Secondary education

276. The number of public secondary schools for Indian boys rose from 506 to 512 and their strength from 156,384 to 157,560. The number of girls reading in these schools was 2,486. As in previous years there was an increase of nearly a thousand in the number of candidates who sat for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate public examination. Eighty-two pupils belonging to the depressed classes were admitted to the public examination without payment of fees and of these 34 were declared eligible for entering upon a University course of studies. In November 1925 Government appointed a committee to consider the reorganization of secondary education. The committee met twice during the year and adjourned until July 1926. The report of the special officer appointed to consider certain questions connected with secondary education was considered by the Director of Public Instruction and was submitted to Government for orders just after the close of the official year. The total expenditure on secondary schools rose from Rs. 65·61 lakhs to Rs. 68·71 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 29 per cent and fees 56 per cent. The average cost of educating a pupil was Rs. 43·27 and a pupil paid an average fee of Rs. 24·41.

Elementary education

277. The number of public elementary schools for Indian boys rose by 3,291 to 43,631 and their strength by 139,386 to 1,835,249. The percentage

of male pupils to the total male population rose from 7·1 to 7·6. The total number of teachers employed in these schools increased by 5,812 to 77,886 and the number of trained teachers by 2,549 to 36,717. The percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers remained the same as last year, namely, 47. The number of school buildings constructed during the year for elementary schools was 728, of which 98 were for schools under public management. The total expenditure on elementary schools rose from Rs. 116·87 lakhs to Rs. 125·55 lakhs towards which public funds contributed 77 per cent and fees 6 per cent. The average cost of educating a pupil was Rs. 7 against Rs. 7-0-6 in the previous year.

Four more municipalities resolved to introduce compulsory elementary education during the year. In accordance with the recommendations of the Māppilla Education Committee sanction was accorded to the introduction of compulsory education for boys of school-age in select areas of the Ponnāni taluk and in the Mannārghat Village Panchayat of Walluvanad taluk which are largely inhabited by Māppillas.

Special education

278. The number of Government training schools for masters fell from 63 to 61, owing to the amalgamation of the Secondary Training School, Chittoor, with the higher elementary training school in the locality and the handing over of the Government Lower Elementary Training School at Chidambaram to the management of Sir S. R. M. Annamalai Chettiyar. The temporary secondary training class attached to the Government Training School, Villupuram, was also handed over to his management. The secondary training schools at Coimbatore, Tellicherry and Mangalore were amalgamated with the Government Arts Colleges in those localities during the year.

The Government sanctioned the opening of a School of Commerce at Vizagapatam with effect from 1st July 1925. Fifty-nine new vocational schemes were sanctioned during the year. The managers of Indian schools welcomed the introduction of special vocational classes; the instruction

given is popular and good results have on the whole been obtained. In the majority of cases instruction in manual training has been limited to two periods per week per pupil during school hours so as not to interfere unduly with general education.

Women's education

279. The number of schools solely intended for Indian girls rose by 203 to 3,423 and their strength by 11,507 to 231,580. The number of arts colleges remained the same, but their strength fell from 407 to 390. The number of secondary schools for girls rose from 63 to 64 and their strength from 12,290 to 12,528. Including girls reading in boys' schools, 14,646 girls were receiving secondary education. The number of elementary schools rose by 251 to 3,228 and their strength by 13,265 to 213,998. The number of training schools for women, Government and aided, remained the same. The secondary section of St. Christopher's Training College, Madras, was temporarily closed during the year, while a new training school was opened on the Nilgiris—the Bethlehem Training School, Ootacamund.

European education

280. The total number of institutions for Europeans remained the same, while there was a slight decrease in their strength. Of the 685 teachers employed in these schools, 534 were certificated. For the European High School Examination 148 candidates were examined and 95 passed : for the Middle School Examination 259 were examined and 143 passed. There was a decrease in the total expenditure on European education from Rs. 25·53 lakhs to Rs. 25·02 lakhs.

Education of Muhammadans

281. The total number of public institutions specially intended for Muhammadans increased by 370 to 2,986 and their strength by 19,913 to 173,157. In arts colleges there were 297 Muhammadan students as against 248 in the previous year, while the number of Muhammadan pupils in secondary schools for Indians rose by 470 to 9,320. The number of public institutions for Māppillas rose by 202 to 1,067. The expenditure on both Muhammadan and Māppilla schools rose from Rs. 17·25 lakhs to Rs. 17·60 lakhs.

Education of Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras and other backward classes

282. The number of public institutions for Ādi-Drāvidas and Ādi-Āndhras rose by 327 to 9,413 and their strength by 8,929 to 262,716. The total number of Ādi-Drāvida and Ādi-Āndhra scholars in public schools rose by 16,097 to 209,730. The number of elementary schools intended for aboriginal and hill tribes in the Agency tracts rose from 260 to 286 and their strength from 7,961 to 8,215 ; and the total number of pupils belonging to the aboriginal tribes under instruction in all classes of institutions in the Agency Division was 9,161, while the number for the Presidency as a whole was 17,656. There were 15 schools working exclusively for the benefit of Chenchus in the Kurnool district and 64 institutions intended for hill tribes in the Nilgiris district. All the schools intended for the education of the blind, of deaf mutes and of other defective children continued to work during the year.

Finance

283. The total expenditure on education rose from Rs. 390·39 lakhs to Rs. 416·20 lakhs ; public funds bore 57 per cent of the expenditure and private funds 43 per cent. The amounts spent by local bodies on their own schools showed an increase of over Rs. 10 lakhs. Provincial subsidies to local bodies, including the amount placed at the disposal of the District Educational Councils for elementary education, rose from Rs. 87·61 lakhs to Rs. 99·89 lakhs.

Reformatory and Certified Schools

[*Report on the working of the Reformatory and Certified Schools for the year 1925*]

284. The management and control of the Reformatory and Certified Schools was transferred from the Educational to the Jail Department with effect from 1st August 1925. There were during the year four schools which were certified under the Madras Children Act, the Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput, the Junior Certified School, Rānipet, the Elementary School attached to the Madras Society for the Protection of Children and the American Advent Mission Industrial School, Velacheri.

The Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput (1925)

285. The Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput, is designed for the training of youthful offenders, that is, persons who have been convicted of offences punishable with transportation or imprisonment and who at the time of such convictions were under the age of 16 years.

The year began with 228 pupils on the rolls ; 76 were received during the year, 73 were discharged and 231 remained at the end of the year. Consequent on certain alterations carried out during the year, the accommodation of the school has been increased from 268 to 300. It should, in future, be possible to commit youthful offenders direct to the school instead of sending them, in the first instance, to jails to await information as to whether accommodation is available in the school or not. Various structural and sanitary improvements were effected during the year and it is hoped that the municipal water-supply will be extended to the school shortly.

The health of the school was satisfactory apart from the periodical prevalence of malaria. There were no deaths during the year.

The general educational and industrial instruction given to the pupils was satisfactory and the results of the examinations held during the year were very good. The boys received a good general education and were taught some form of useful industry, such as tailoring, carpentry, blacksmithy, weaving, gardening ; their moral and religious training received special attention. The Boy Scout movement had a very decided and wholesome effect on the general outlook of the boys in the school. The boys took a keen interest in games in the playing field and physical training was practised daily in the gymnasium. The school secured two prizes in the All-India St. John's Ambulance Competition.

It is hoped to improve the organization whereby reliable information can be obtained with regard to the progress made by ex-pupils discharged from the school. Of the 69 boys who were actually discharged during the year 1925, it was reported that 42 boys were behaving well.

The Junior Certified School, Ranipet (1925)

286. The Junior Certified School, Rānipet, is intended for the training of children (under 14 years). Accommodation was available for 80 boys and when the Superintendent's quarters now under construction are ready for occupation there will be additional accommodation for 45 boys. There were 42 boys in the school on the 31st of March 1925 and 38 boys were admitted during the remaining nine months of the year. Of these, two were discharged, nine were transferred to the Senior Certified School at Chingleput, one was released on licence and seven escaped. There were 61 pupils on the rolls at the end of the year.

The general health of the boys was not altogether satisfactory. Many of them suffered from eye and skin diseases. This fact explains the increase in the number of in-patients during the year which is also partly attributable to the epidemic of chicken-pox which broke out in the latter part of the year. The water-supply of the school and the bathing arrangements were not satisfactory and proposals to improve them were under consideration. It is hoped that there will be considerable improvement in the physical well-being of the boys now that the cooking and feeding arrangements are under regular medical inspection.

Elementary education was imparted to all the boys and great care was taken in their religious and moral training. Some effort was also made to give them manual training in useful trades such as carpentry and weaving. As in the Senior Certified School, physical training and sports formed a feature of the daily routine.

GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS

[*Commissioner's report for the year 1925–26*]

General

287. Thirteen examinations were held as in the previous year. The total number of candidates registered for the 13 examinations held at 627 centres was 36,300 and 32,818 were examined. Particulars relating to each examination are given in the statement below. The examinations were

held at several centres in the Presidency and 6 of them were held at centres outside it. There was a decrease in the number of candidates registered and examined in the case of European School Examinations which was due to the institution of a separate European School Examination in Bangalore. The institution of an examination of the lower grade in Agriculture was sanctioned during the year and the first examination will be held in the current year.

Number.	Name of examination.	Number of candidates registered.	Number of candidates examined.	Number of centres.	Number passed.
1	Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Public Examination	16,978	14,967	321	† 14,881
2	Special Examination under the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board for the benefit of teachers who have failed in the Matriculation or the Upper Secondary Examination and are desirous of being admitted for Secondary Grade Training .	3	2	2	...
3	Women's Secondary Grade Final Examination	36	35	18	...
4	Training School-Leaving Certificate Examination	7,883	7,439	101	3,655
5	Deputy Inspectors' Test Examination	* 146	* 118	16	89
6	Government Technical Examinations	* 8,590	* 7,977	63	3,491
7	Public Examination at the end of the Advanced Course of Studies in Sanskrit Schools	156	149	15	...
8	Special Test Examinations, June.	* 844	* 655	27	348
...	Do. December.	* 1,113	* 929	27	378
9	Technical Teachers' Certificate Examination	* 92	* 89	13	67
10	European School Examinations ...	407	406	20	238
11	Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for men)	12	12	1	9
12	Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for women)	16	16	2	5
13	Pandits' Training Certificates Examination	24	24	1	24
	Total ...	36,300	32,818	627	...

* Number of subject candidates.
† This is the number of candidates who completed their certificates. "

The number of pupils belonging to the depressed classes who were admitted to the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination without payment of fees was 82.

Of the candidates registered and examined for the Women's Secondary Grade Final Examination, 24 were Indian Christians.

Forty-six group certificates, of which three were for Surveying, one for Shorthand, one for Hydraulic Engineering and 41 for Drawing, were issued during the year at the Technical Examinations.

Finance

The receipts rose from Rs. 2,79,940 to Rs. 2,85,487. There was a slight increase in expenditure. The excess of receipts over expenditure was Rs. 66,964 as against Rs. 63,404 in the previous year.

LAWRENCE MEMORIAL SCHOOL (1925-26)

288. In September 1925 it was notified by the Government of India that His Majesty the King-Emperor was pleased to approve of the Lawrence Memorial School being designated "The Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School (Lovedale)." A sub-committee was appointed by the Board of Governors to consider urgent and difficult matters and, when possible, make decisions on such matters.

Pupils

The number of pupils on the rolls of the school on the 31st March 1926 was 514—313 boys, 190 girls and 11 students. The Board of Governors sanctioned, as an experimental measure for one year only, the opening of a hostel near the girls' school for the accommodation of twelve small girls.

In the High School examinations, the results for the girls were very good. Out of nine girls who sat for the Government High School Examination, only one failed ; all the three girls who sat for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination passed ; in the Cambridge School Certificate Examination two girls failed. In the boys' school, the results were not so satisfactory. In the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one boy failed out of seven

who appeared, and in the Government High School Examination four boys failed out of eight who appeared. The Army Council allotted to this school ten vacancies a year for training boys as electricians, artificers, armourers and clerks at Chepstow, and it was hoped that the first batch would be sent in September.

Physical and military training

There were 28 members on the rolls of the detachment of the Auxiliary Force and 106 cadets. The Cadet Company attended the Annual Camp of Exercise held at Pōdānūr in September 1925. Drill, gymnastics, boxing and shooting are taught regularly to the boys; the girls play hockey, badminton and tennis and have companies of Girl Guides and Blue Birds. The school continued to maintain its efficiency.

Training school

The Government approved of the continuance of the Training School for Mistresses for a further period of two years. In 1925 five students were admitted and in 1926 seven students. At the end of the year 1926 six students are to appear for the Government examination for European teachers.

Finance

Including the opening balance, the total receipts for the year were Rs. 3,73,863 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,53,091, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 20,772.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1925-26)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Printing Presses and Publications*]

General

289. This section contains a brief discussion of the statistics furnished by certain libraries and the Madras Record Office and notes on the Public Press and registration of books.

Connemara Public Library

290. The number of visitors to the Connemara Public Library during the year was 34,312 as compared with 30,696 in the previous year. The marked increase in the number of visitors and in the number of volumes consulted (34,563 as against 33,217 in 1924-25) indicates that the Library continued to grow in popularity. In the year under report, 359 standard works were added to

the Library. Of these works 231 were purchased and the rest received as gifts or on exchange. The recommendations of the special committee appointed by the University Library to consider the mutual transfer of certain periodicals between the two libraries and the supply of new periodicals were accepted by the Government; as a result, exchanges of volumes were made between the two libraries.

University Library (1925)

291. In the University Library, the total number of readers during the year 1925 was 19,291 as against 15,726 in 1924, and 27,627 volumes were consulted compared with 22,075 in the previous year. The privilege of taking books on loan from the library was enjoyed by 361 readers.

Oriental Manuscripts Library

292. The number of manuscripts added to the Oriental Manuscripts Library during the year was 286 (203 in Sanskrit and 83 in other languages) as against 1,319 in the previous year. The large number in the year 1924–25 was due to the presentation of 1,142 manuscripts by the Trustees of the Yogi Parthasarathi Ayyangar Charities, Triplicane. Among the manuscripts acquired, those relating to poetry and prose were the largest in number, those relating to religion coming next in order. The number of visitors rose from 3,943 in the previous year to 4,409 in the year under report; and the number of manuscripts and books consulted was 7,145 as against 6,810 in 1924–25. The preparation of slips for an up-to-date alphabetical index of the manuscripts in the library was carried on. A critical introduction in English containing valuable information on certain aspects of the history of Vedantic thought and culture was also being prepared.

Educational associations and reading rooms

293. In the Madras Presidency 1,950 teachers' associations were working during the year, and the total membership of these associations was 91,334 (2,047 women and 89,287 men). There were 941 reading rooms and literary societies, of which 88 were registered and 853 not registered.

Madras Record Office (1925–26)

294. A full-time Curator for the Madras Record Office was temporarily appointed in April 1925 and the Collector of Madras ceased to be the

officer in charge. About 7,400 requisitions for papers and for information were received from the Secretariat, the Board of Revenue and other offices; of these, 25 cases involved prolonged search among the records. The office also dealt with 25 references made by Collectors of districts.

Since November 1925 considerable attention has been paid to the mending of the old manuscript volumes up to 1750, and during the year 135 volumes were repaired : the corresponding number for last year was 14." Other work done during the year included listing, cataloguing and indexing. In addition to the annual accession of records by transfer from the Secretariat and other offices and of books and publications from the Secretariat Library, a few volumes of records were taken over from the Collectorates of Tanjore, Salem and Madras, the office of the Senior Government Inspector of Railways and the High Court.

Publications

Despatches to England, 1701–1702 to 1710–11, and Despatches from England, 1701—1706, were printed and issued. Despatches from England, 1706—10 and 1710—13, and the Public Diary and Consultations for 1703 have been printed and will be issued when the indexes are completed. Preparation of other volumes of Despatches, the Public Diary and Consultations, and Letters from Fort St. George, was being attended to during the year. As regards the Bāramahal Records, the volume "Justice" has been printed and will be published when the index is ready; the volume "Miscellany" was printed and issued. Volume X of the translation of Ānanda Ranga Pillai's Diary (January 1756 to June 1757) was issued and Volume XI was in the Press.

Periodicals (1925)

Statistics

295. During the year 1925, 282 newspapers were actually published in the Presidency, of which 111 appeared in the Madras City and 171 in the mufassal. Eight newspapers were published in the French Settlements of Pondicherry and Karaikal. Of the newspapers published, 63 were printed in English and 110 in Tamil.

Circulation

The *Hindu* continued to have a larger daily circulation (11,000) than any other newspaper. The circulation of the *Madras Mail* fell from 7,000

to 5,380. This decrease was chiefly due to the reduction in the prices of other English dailies.

Among the Tamil journals, the *Swadesamitran* and the *Tamil Nādu* increased in their circulation. The circulation of the *Swadesamitran* rose from 7,000 in 1924 to 11,000 in 1925. The *Ananda Bhodini*, a Tamil monthly, dealing with general news, had a circulation of 20,000.

Among the Telugu newspapers, the circulation of the *Āndhra Patrika* rose from 7,000 to 9,000.

Tone of the Press

There was no change in the tone of the Press during the year under report. The actions of the Government and their officials met with hostile criticism from papers published both in English and in the vernacular. The following are the most prominent subjects discussed in the Press during the year :—The Report of the Reforms Enquiry Committee, the South African Problem, colonization of the Andamans by Māppillas, the Speech of the Secretary of State for India, the Bombay Mill Strike and the Indian Currency Commission.

Registration of books (1925-26)

296. During the year, 3,526 books and 847 periodicals were registered. The figures for the previous year were 4,088 and 923, respectively. There was a decline of literary activity in all districts except a few Telugu districts and Malabar, but nearly half of the decrease was in publications classed as "Miscellaneous." There was also a decrease in publications dealing with Science and Art. Of the total number of publications registered, 1,429 were Tamil publications, 1,090 Telugu publications and 944 English publications.

The tone and style of the publications presented for registration were on the whole progressive.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

297. *Vide* pages 252 to 254 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ARTS AND SCIENCES (1925-26)

298. The scientific staff of the Madras Government Museum devoted almost the whole of its time to investigation. In the Archæological section an officer was placed on special duty to catalogue the coins and another officer continued the cataloguing of the bronzes. It is regretted that, out of 80 bronzes chemically treated for their effective preservation, 28 figures showed recurrence of corrosion. Government Museum Investigation

Notable additions to the Archæological section were copper images and stone images acquired under the provisions of the Treasure Trove Act, two inscribed marble pillars from Dharanikota in the Guntūr district, and sets of copper plates, including two sets of copper plates purchased in the Gōdāvari district, which record the genealogy of the Eastern Chalukyan Kings.

Government sanctioned the employment of a part-time ethnologist, to be in charge of the Ethnological and Pre-historic galleries. In the Botanical section the preparation of a guide to the flowering plants of Madras City and its immediate neighbourhood was continued. The Zoological section was chiefly engaged on the littoral fauna of Krusadai Island, the guide to which is being revised in the light of supplementary observations and collections, to obtain which the Superintendent paid a visit to the Island in September 1925.

The necessity for the early completion of the work of investigation referred to above made it impossible for the staff to make much progress with the increase and improvement of the descriptive labels which are badly needed to make the galleries more intelligible to visitors. But a certain amount of work was done to make the exhibits more interesting. Public galleries

The whole collection of coins in the Museum was sorted and up to the end of the year 701 coins were catalogued under 21 different dynasties, 212 were set apart for the reserve collection and 1,066 were removed as duplicates. The study of the coins received under the provisions of the Numismatics

Treasure Trove Act brought to light the existence of gold coins of the subordinates of the Kakatiyas and a new Mughal Mint.

Visitors

There was a marked increase in the attendance of visitors ; the Dwadasi and Kannupongal festivals attracted large crowds, as usual.

Theatre

The Museum Theatre was in great demand and was used on 41 occasions, 14 of these being performances of the Madras Dramatic Society and four concerts of the Musical Association.

Meteorology (1925-26)

299. In last year's report it was mentioned that the Madras Daily Weather Report was published for nine months of the year from April to December. The period for publication was lengthened on 1st January 1926, and the report will in future be published throughout the year. Excluding meteorological observatories, there were 402 stations at which rainfall was registered. Of these 395 stations were inspected during the year. The rain-gauges were generally in good condition and the registration of rainfall was satisfactory.

Astronomy (1925)

300. The Kodaikānal Observatory is devoted mainly to solar research work, but complete meteorological and seismometric records are also maintained. During the year 1925, the record of solar activity was continued as in former years.

Kodaikānal Observatory

The collection of spectroheliograms from foreign observatories for those days on which records could not be obtained at Kodaikānal was continued as part of the programme of the International Astronomical Union, and the combined data have been taken into consideration in the work of compilation and discussion of statistics relating to prominence phenomena.

Spectroheliograms of the sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on 327 days, in hydrogen light on 285 days and of prominences on the limb on 283 days. Direct solar photographs on a scale of 8 inches to the diameter were taken on 328 days.

There has been a large increase in sunspot activity since the previous year, the activity being doubled in the northern hemisphere and increased 4½ times in the southern. The approximate mean latitude of the spots was 20°·1 in the northern hemisphere and 21°·6 in the southern. With the

advance of the new cycle of solar activity there was an increase in the number of long-lived spots and spots which persisted for more than one revolution of the sun.

Prominence activity derived from Kodaikānal photographic records showed an increase of 16 per cent in areas and 10 per cent in numbers, compared with the year 1924. The increase as in the case of sunspots was more marked in the southern hemisphere. The distribution of the prominences in latitude was different from that of the year 1924, as a result of relatively greater increase of activity in low latitudes.

Madras Observatory

The only astronomical observations made at the Madras Observatory are those necessary for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India. The time gun at Fort St. George failed on 134 occasions out of 730 occasions, giving a percentage of success of 81·9. The gun was not fired between 11th June and 13th July owing to the moving of the gun from inside the fort to the glacis outside near St. George's Gate, Fort St. George. Most of the failures were due to faults in the firing apparatus and contacts on the line outside the observatory. The time ball at the harbour failed on 7 occasions out of 365, giving a percentage of success of 98·1. The failure was not due to any fault in the observatory. The 10 p.m. radio signals from Calcutta failed on 62 occasions out of 365, giving a percentage of success of 83. The 16-hour roll of signals was sent to the Telegraph office every day as usual.

CHAPTER VIII

ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1925-26)

Archæology

301. A sum of Rs. 25,859-5-10 was spent in the Madras Presidency on the conservation of ancient monuments and on the upkeep of roads and pathways connected with them. This expenditure comprised over one hundred different items, including the usual annual repairs and maintenance of watchmen. The heaviest expenditure was incurred at the Hampi Ruins, the Seven Pagodas, the Fort at Gingee, the San Francis Church at Cochin, the Fort at Masulipatam, the Gopalakrishna and Siva temples at Timmalapuram, the Citadel at Penukonda, the Hill Fort at Uchchangidurgam, the Dutch Fort and Cemetery at Sadras, the Dutch Cemetery at Pulicat, the Choutar's Palace at Mudabidri, the Dansborg Castle at Tranquebar and the Hill Forts in the Salem district. All these interesting and important monuments are now in good repair and are provided with good roads and pathways for the benefit of visitors. No exploration work was undertaken during the year under report. The sale of photographs to the public realized Rs. 251. The Memoir on Pallava Architecture (Part II) mentioned in last year's report was sent to the Press for publication. A second edition of the "Guide to Hampi Ruins" was reprinted at the Government of India Press and copies are kept in the Travellers' Bungalow at Hampi for sale to the public. The expenditure on establishment amounted to Rs. 26,630-0-4.

Epigraphy

302. During the year under report 23 copper-plate grants and 614 stone inscriptions in the Presidency were copied and examined, and the

village surveys in the Dharmavaram taluk and a portion of the Māyavaram taluk were completed by the Madras Epigraphical Office.

The most noteworthy work of the office, however, was the discovery of the three Brāhmī inscriptions at Nāgārjunikoṇḍa in the Guntūr district. Palæographically these inscriptions may be ascribed to about the third century A.D. They are connected with the dynasty of the Ikhākus (Ikshvākus?) about which very little is known. One of them is of especial value for the Buddhist world, as it is incised on a marble pillar which was set up during the reign of Purushadatta of the said dynasty in a *chaitya* which it connects with the deposit of the corporeal remains of the Buddha.

Next in importance comes the inscription engraved on a marble pillar which is standing in the Rāmaliṅgasvāmin temple at Vēlpūru. Though badly mutilated, it is interesting in that it furnishes the second known lithic record of the early Vishṇukuṇḍin dynasty.

Of the Chōḷa inscriptions examined in the year, one belongs to the twelfth year of Parāntaka and refers to the success of the Chōḷa army in the battle against the combined forces of the Pāṇḍyas and the Ceylonese, fought at Veḷḷūr, probably in the Rāmnād district. As many as eight queens of Uttama-Chōḷa are mentioned as donors in a record of Śembiyaṉ Mahādēvi where a temple was erected by their mother-in-law Śembiyaṉ Mahādēvi, the widowed queen of Gaṇḍarāditya whose image is stated to have been installed in this temple some years later. The inscription of the tenth year of Rājarāja at Kīḻappaḻuvūr is another interesting record, for it places the naval expedition which this ruler led against the Cheras at Kāndalūr in the year 993 A.D.

Of the Pāṇḍya records examined in the year, the one which states that Māṟavarman Sundara-Pāṇḍya gave back the conquered Chōḷa dominions to Kulōttuṅga III is of special significance. As Sundara-Pāṇḍya ascended the throne in 1216 A.D. the new information furnished in this record enables us to surmise that Kulōttuṅga must have

been alive in 1223 A.D., the seventh year of Sundara-Pāṇḍya when he first assumed the title of *Śōṇāḍu-vaḷaṅgi-aruḷiya*. Another Pāṇḍya record noticed in the year refers to a Vikrama Pāṇḍya as the *Periyanayiṉār* (elder king or predecessor) of Sundara-Pāṇḍya.

A copper-plate grant of a certain Western Chalukya king called Hiriya-Permāḍi-rāya is worthy of mention. The record which it bears refers to the siege of a great fort of Tōragallu successfully raised by this king and to some grants made in Śaka 1009 (1087-88 A.D.) in commemoration of this event.

Of the Vijayanagara inscriptions copied in the year only a few contain new material. An inscription from Tiruttaḷūr advances the latest date of Immadi Praudhadēva by two years, and a Śēndalai record of Kṛishṇarāya mentions a new general Vīrayya-Daṇāyaka by name. Three other Vijayanagara feudatories are also mentioned, Vittama-Chōla Mahārāya who was ruling over the Uttuṅgatuṅgavaḷanāḍu, Eṛa Timmaya-Nāyaka over Mugai-nādu in Śaka 1348 and Vīranaiyaṇār Viśaiyālayadēva over portions of Rāmnād in 1523 A.D.

Of the three Persian inscriptions copied in the year, one was found at Rajahmundry and relates to the erection of a mosque by Sālār Ulwi during the viceroyalty of Prince Ulugh Khān in 1324 A.D.

CHAPTER IX

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

303. *Vide* pages 259 to 262 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ECCLESIASTICAL (1925-26)

Church of England

304. On the 31st March 1926 there were in all 289 clerks in Holy Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras. One chaplain was granted leave preparatory to retirement and three chaplains were granted ordinary furlough of 11 months or less. Three vacancies occurred during the year. According to the scheme formulated by the Government of India two chaplains were recruited during the period of reduction—one in England and one in India; and one other chaplain was recruited in England as an additional field service chaplain and assigned to the Diocese of Madras. During the year ending the 31st March 1926 one European and four Indians were ordained deacons by the Bishop of Madras, the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura ordained one Indian deacon, and the Bishop of Dornakal ordained, under Commission from the Bishop of Madras, nine deacons, all of whom were Indians, and one European and four Indian priests. Nineteen clergymen received licences to officiate during the year either as chaplains, English ministers, or Indian pastors; of these licences one was issued by the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura, and ten by the Bishop of Dornakal.

No churches were consecrated during the year ; but a chapel of the Church Missionary Society in Ootacamund was dedicated on June 20, 1925. The new extension of St. George's Cemetery at Wellington was consecrated on June 7, 1925 ; and a part of the Government Cemetery at Mercara on November 2, 1925.

Alms and other offerings of the people given through clergymen ministering to English congregations during the year amounted to Rupees 1,89,286-4-6.

Church of Scotland

305. The establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of the Presidency Senior Chaplain, one chaplain at Bangalore and one chaplain at Secunderabad, who was attached to the 1st Battalion, the Gordon Highlanders, and was in charge of the Civil Chaplaincy of St. Andrew's Church, Secunderabad.

STATIONERY (1925-26)

General transactions Opening balance

306. The value of stock with the Superintendent of Stationery at the beginning of the year 1925-26 was Rs. 9,94,319 (English stores Rs. 4,24,644 and Indian stores Rs. 5,69,675) as against Rs. 8,21,869 (English stores Rs. 6,91,298 and Indian stores Rs. 1,30,571) in 1924-25.

Receipts

The total value of stores received during the year amounted to Rs. 8,16,402 (English stores Rs. 4,61,650 and Indian stores Rs. 3,54,752) as against Rs. 13,35,936 (English stores Rs. 3,47,786 and Indian stores Rs. 9,88,150) in 1924-25.

Issues

The total value of issues during the year amounted to Rs. 10,28,482 (English stores Rs. 4,28,849 and Indian stores Rs. 5,99,633) as against Rs. 11,63,486 (English stores Rs. 6,14,440 and Indian stores Rs. 5,49,046) in 1924-25.

Local funds

The value of stationery debited to Local Funds, etc., and of stationery issued on payment during the year 1925-26 amounted to Rs. 32,544 as against Rs. 39,683 in 1924-25.

Closing balance

The value of closing balance of stores for the year was Rs. 7,82,239 (English stores Rs. 4,57,445

and Indian stores Rs. 3,24,794) as against Rs. 9,94,319 (English stores Rs. 4,24,644 and Indian stores Rs. 5,69,675) in 1924–25.

GOVERNMENT PRESS (1925–26)

307. The net receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 1,99,468 against Rs. 1,82,460 in 1924–25, the increase being due to recoveries on account of chargeable work and sale proceeds of unserviceable plant and stores. The expenditure fell from Rs. 7,49,209 to Rs. 7,45,603. There was less expenditure on overtime. **Finance**

308. Acts and books to the value of Rs. 28,270 were added during the year and the sales including those of the commission agents amounted to Rs. 21,793. Separate accounts are maintained for the publications of the Central Government with effect from 1st April 1925. The sales effected by agents fell from Rs. 5,406 to Rs. 4,464 due to the introduction of the cash sale system with effect from 1st April 1924. The value of repealed Acts and obsolete publications written off during the year was Rs. 1,043, while the value of free issues was Rs. 37,522 as against Rs. 43,235 in 1924–25, the decrease being due to the discontinuance of free issue of priced publications to Central and other Provincial officers with effect from 1st April 1925. The total number of copies supplied free was 336,440 including 28,469 copies of proceedings placed on the "Editors' Table." **Publications**

309. The total work charges in respect of printing and binding amounted to Rs. 9,48,060, cost of paper and binding materials to Rs. 1,71,275, and cost of maps, stereos and blocks to Rs. 6,678. **Printing and binding**

310. The total production of types, materials and plates in the type-foundry during the year was 71,559 lb. The total expenditure on account of supply of, and repairs to, rubber stamps amounted to Rs. 5,389. During the year, plant to the value of Rs. 2,07,485 was added against Rs. 2,05,069 in 1924–25, and the year closed with a book balance of Rs. 14,64,937 after deducting **Miscellaneous**

depreciation. The stock of stores closed with a balance of Rs. 1,46,656 on 31st March 1926 against Rs. 1,67,147 in the previous year, the decrease being due to smaller quantity of paper in stock at the end of the year. Printing bills on account of Government work executed at private presses, scrutinized and passed during the year, amounted to Rs. 536 against Rs. 357 in the previous year. The value of bills checked for private bodies rose from Rs. 33,715 to Rs. 35,611. The total number of forms and covers despatched during the year was 116 millions.

General

311. The revised costing system enunciated by the Controller of Printing, Stationery and Stamps, and discussed at the Conference of representatives of Government printing establishments in India held in December 1923 was, in combination with the commercial system of accounts recommended by Messrs. Fraser & Ross, Commercial Accountants and Auditors to the Government of Madras, introduced in the Madras Government presses on 1st April 1925.

THE CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1925)

[*Annual Report of the Chemical Examiner's Department; Statistical Abstract for British India—Medico-legal investigations*]

312. The work of this department continued to increase, especially in the investigation of medico-legal cases. The number of analyses undertaken was 4,227 as against 4,125 in the previous year, and there was a remarkable increase in the number of stain cases.

Medico-legal investigations

Human poisoning

313. In the 246 cases of suspected human poisoning investigated poison was detected in 135 cases. Opium was found either alone or together with other poisons in 33 cases, arsenic was found in 23 cases; after these two poisons came mercury, aconite and atropine, in order named. Of the rarer poisons there was one case each of cerbera odallum, madar, gloriosa superba and copper sulphate and three cases of picrotoxin (*cocculus*

indicus) poisoning. The decline in the use of arsenic was mentioned in last year's report—in the year 1925, inorganic poisons were found in only 17·9 per cent of the human poisoning cases. The methods for the detection of the rare poison picrotoxin, or *cocculus indicus*, were investigated and it was found that the method of extraction given in Lyon's *Medical Jurisprudence for India*, 1914, worked well.

Animal poisoning

The number of cases of animal poisoning decreased to 42, which is only about half the average number for the last ten years. Poison was detected in 16 cases—arsenic poisoning 8, yellow oleander 7 and strychnine 1.

Stain cases

During the year under report 507 stain cases, which included 2,018 articles, were investigated as compared with 417 cases in 1924.. Both these numbers are "records." 1,398 specimens of blood stains were sent to the Imperial Serologist, Calcutta.

General analyses

314. In addition to medico-legal investigations, 497 general analyses were undertaken, of which 366 were for departments of the Central Government. Experiments on chloroform, which had been conducted for several years, were continued; a paper was written declaring some of the principal results, and read before the Society of Public Analysts. Other experiments conducted during the year included experiments on the nature of the blood creatinine and on the preparation of an insecticide for use in railway carriages.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1925-26)

General statistics

315. There were 3,459 charitable institutions in the Presidency with an income of Rs. 21,68,899 and 20 muras of rice. Of these institutions 2,200 were maintained entirely by endowments in land and money and by subscriptions and donations from the general public, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 11·18 lakhs. Two hundred and eighty-five institutions were supported by Government at a cost of Rs. 2·4 lakhs and 180 were maintained

partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 4·42 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 794 institutions, costing Rs. 3·69 lakhs, devolved wholly or in part on local bodies.

Purpose of institutions

The purpose served by 1,970 of the institutions was the relief of travellers. Of these, 944 were "General," 930 were for Hindus, 91 for Muhammadans and 5 for Christians. Four hundred and eighty-one institutions were maintained for the relief of Brahmans and these were almost entirely supported by the general public. The number of institutions intended for the relief of paupers was 589, while the number for orphans, the blind, the deaf and lepers was only eleven. The aggregate number of persons aided during the year by all the charitable institutions is reported to be 15,619,539.

Number aided

Triplicane Langarkhana

316. The receipts of the Triplicane Langarkhana, including an opening balance of Rs. 490, amounted to Rs. 5,536, as against Rs. 6,008 in the previous year. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the institution was 189 as in the previous year.

Monegar Choultry

317. In the Monegar Choultry the average daily number of inmates was 67·42 as against 91 in the previous year and the daily average cost of diet per pauper was As. 4–7 as against As. 4–3 in 1924-25. The increased cost of dieting was due to a rise in the prices of rice and other food-stuffs supplied. Of the 54 persons admitted during the year, 33 were sent by the Police and 21 were sent from hospitals. The total receipts, including the balance in the Bank on 1st April 1925, amounted to Rs. 13,692, and the expenditure was Rs. 12,499.

Raja of Venkatagiri Choultry

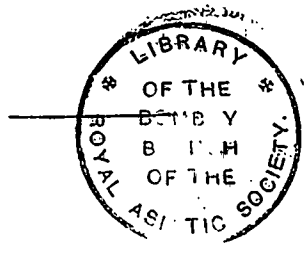
318. The average daily number of outdoor paupers, who received raw rice at the Raja of Venkatagiri Choultry, was 144·25 as against 142·66 in the previous year. Owing chiefly to the increase in the cost of raw rice, the expenditure rose from Rs. 4,350 in 1924-25 to Rs. 5,311 in the year under report. The total receipts, including the balance in the Imperial Bank of India on 1st April 1925, amounted to Rs. 5,789.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE SERVICE OF GOVERNMENT (1925-26)

319. The number of Government servants from each community employed in the service of Government on the 1st April 1926 is shown in the following table :—

Community.	Gazetted officers.	Non-gazetted officers in permanent appointments on a pay of		
		Rs. 100 and over.	Rs. 35 and upwards but below Rs. 100.	Less than Rs. 35.
Brahmans	402	3,409	8,197	928
Non-Brahmans	215	1,901	5,238	29,357
Depressed classes	...	2	54	1,175
Muhammadans	53	323	1,139	9,445
Non-Asiatics and Anglo-Indians	408	456	106	33
Indian Christians	102	456	643	1,888
Others	16	12	17	412

N.B.—These figures do not include officers in the High Court and the District courts.


LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

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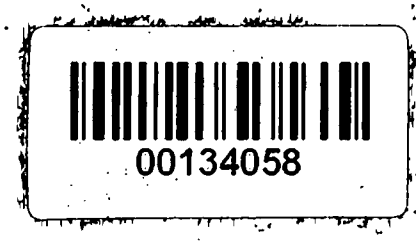
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